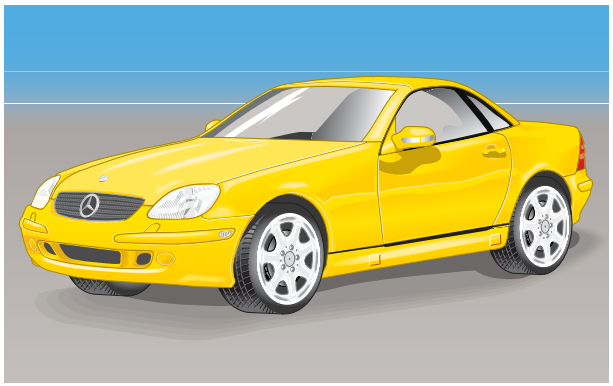
Mercedes-Benz



SLK-Class
Operator's Manual

SLK 230 Kompressor
SLK 320
SLK 32 AMG

Our company and staff congratulate you on the purchase of your new Mercedes-Benz.

Your selection of our product is a demonstration of your trust in our company name. Further, it exemplifies your desire to own an automobile that will be as easy as possible to operate and provide years of service.

Your Mercedes-Benz represents the efforts of many skilled engineers and craftsmen. To ensure your pleasure of ownership, and for your safety and that of your passengers, we ask you to make a small investment of your time:

- Please read this manual carefully before putting it aside. Then return it to your vehicle where it will be handy for your reference.
- Please abide by the recommendations contained in this manual. They are designed to acquaint you with the operation of your Mercedes-Benz.
- Please abide by the warnings and cautions contained in this manual. They are designed to help improve the safety of the vehicle operator and occupants.

We extend our best wishes for many miles of safe, pleasurable driving.

DaimlerChrysler AG

Introduction

Product information 5
Operator's manual 6
Where to find it 11
Reporting Safety Defects 13

Instruments and controls

Instruments and controls 16
Center console 18
Overhead control panel 19

Operation

Vehicle keys 22
Remote control with folding master key 22
Start lock-out 23
General notes on the central locking system 23
Central locking system 24
Remote control 24
Panic button 26
Mechanical keys 27
Doors 28
Central locking switch 30
Automatic central locking 31
Emergency unlocking in case of accident 32
Trunk 33
Emergency release for trunk lid 35
Antitheft alarm system 35
Tow-away alarm 37
Seats 38
Seat heater 42
Seat belts and integrated restraint system 44
Seat belts 44
Seat belt nonusage warning system 45
BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system 51
Self-test BabySmart™ without special child seat installed 51
Supplemental restraint system (SRS) 52
Emergency tensioning retractor (ETR) 53
Airbags 54
Safety guidelines for the seat belt, emergency tensioning retractor and airbag 61
Infant and child restraint systems 63
Adjusting telescoping steering column 65
Rear view mirrors 66
Instrument cluster 70
Flexible service system (FSS) 77
Checking engine oil level 79
Engine oil consumption 80
Exterior lamp switch 81
Headlamp cleaning system 82
Combination switch 83
Hazard warning flasher switch 85
Climate control 86
Rear window defroster 90
Audio and telephone, operation 93
Power windows 111

Interior lighting 112
Night security illumination 112
Sun visors with Vanity Mirror 113
Interior 113
Cup holder and glove box 114
Storage compartments 115
Ashtrays 116
Coin Holder 116
Lighter 117
Parcel net in passenger footwell ..118
Shelf behind roll bars 118
Cellular telephone 118
Garage door opener 119
Retractable hardtop 122
Wind screen 127
Luggage cover 128

Driving

Control and operation of radio transmitters 130
The first 1 000 miles (1 500 km) 131
Maintenance 131
Tele Aid 132
Catalytic converter 140
Emission control 141
Steering lock 142
Starting and turning off the engine 144
Manual transmission 145
Automatic transmission 147
Parking brake 156
Driving instructions 157
Drive sensibly – Save Fuel 157
Drinking and driving 157
Pedals 157
Power assistance 158
Brakes 158
Driving off 159
Parking 159
Tires 160
Snow chains 163
Winter driving instructions 163
Block heater 165
Deep water 165
Passenger compartment 165
Traveling abroad 165
Cruise control 166
Brake assist system (BAS) 169
Antilock brake system (ABS) 171
Electronic stability program (ESP) 173
What you should know at the gas station 177
Check regularly and before a long trip 179

Instrument cluster display

Malfunction and indicator lamps in the instrument cluster 182
On-board diagnostic system 182
Check engine malfunction indicator lamp 182
Brake warning lamp 183
Brake pad wear indicator lamp 184
Seat belt nonusage warning lamp 184

Supplemental restraint system (SRS) indicator lamp 184
Fuel reserve and fuel cap placement warning 185
Electronic stability program (ESP) – warning lamp 185
BAS / ESP malfunction indicator lamp 185
ABS malfunction indicator lamp 186
Telescoping steering column warning lamp 186
Low engine coolant level warning lamp 187
Low windshield and headlamp washer system fluid level warning lamp 187
Low engine oil level warning lamp 188
Charge indicator lamp 188
Exterior lamp failure i ndicator lamp 189
Additional function indicator lamps (in the odometer display) 189
Malfunction and indicator lamp in the center console 190
AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp 190

Practical hints

First aid kit 192
Stowing items in the vehicle 192
Fuses 192
Hood 194
Automatic transmission fluid level 196
Checking engine oil level 197
Coolant level 198
Adding coolant 198
Windshield and headlamp washer system 199
Air pump, spare wheel, vehicle tools, storage compartment (except SLK 32 AMG) 200
Vehicle jack (except SLK 32 AMG) 201
Storage box, TIREFIT-Kit, air pump, Vehicle tools (SLK 32 AMG only) 202
Wheels 203
Tire replacement 203
Rotating wheels 204
Spare wheel 205
Spare wheel bolts 206
Changing wheels 207
Inflating the collapsible spare tire 212
Storing spare wheel in wheel well 213
TIREFIT 214
Tire inflation pressure 219
Battery 220
Jump starting 222
Towing the vehicle 224
Transmission selector lever, manually unlocking 229
Exterior lamps 230
Headlamp assembly 231
Taillamp assemblies 234

Changing batteries in the remote control 236
Synchronizing remote control 237
Raising hardtop manually 238
Replacing wiper blade insert 243
Antenna 244
Manual release of fuel filler flap 244

Vehicle care

Cleaning and care of the vehicle 246
Power washer 247
Paintwork, painted body components 247
Tar stains 247
Engine cleaning 248
Vehicle washing 248
Headlamps, taillamps, turn signal lenses 249
Window cleaning 249
Rear window cleaning 249
Wiper blades 250
Light alloy wheels 250
Instrument cluster 251
Steering wheel and gear selector lever 251
Cup holder 251
Hard plastic trim items 251
Plastic and rubber parts 251
Headliner and shelf behind roll bars 252
Upholstery 252
Seat belts 252

Technical data

Spare parts service 254
Warranty coverage 254
Identification labels 255
Layout of poly-V-belt drive 257
Technical data 260
Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. – capacities 266
Engine oils 268
Engine oil additives 268
Air conditioner refrigerant 268
Brake fluid 268
Premium unleaded gasoline 269
Fuel requirements 269
Gasoline additives 270
Coolants 270
Consumer information 272

Index

Index 274

Product information

Kindly observe the following in your own best interest:

We recommend using Mercedes-Benz original parts as well as conversion parts and accessories explicitly approved by us for your vehicle model.

We have tested these parts to determine their reliability, safety and their special suitability for Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

We are unable to make an assessment for other products and therefore cannot be held responsible for them, even if in individual cases an official approval or authorization by governmental or other agencies should exist. Use of such parts and accessories could adversely affect the safety, performance or reliability of your vehicle. Please do not use them.

Mercedes-Benz original parts as well as conversion parts and accessories approved by us are available at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center where you will receive comprehensive information, also on permissible technical modifications, and where proper installation will be performed.

Operator's manual

This Operator's Manual contains a great deal of useful information. We urge you to read it carefully and familiarize yourself with the vehicle before driving.

For your own safety and longer service life of the vehicle, we urge you to follow the instructions and warnings contained in this manual. Ignoring them could result in damage to the vehicle or personal injury to you or others. Vehicle damage caused by failure to follow instructions is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Your vehicle may have some or all of the equipment described in this manual. Therefore, you may find explanations for optional equipment not installed in your vehicle. If you have any questions about the operation of any equipment, your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will be glad to demonstrate the proper procedures.

Service and warranty information

The Service and Warranty Information Booklet contains detailed information about the warranties covering your Mercedes-Benz, including:

- New Car Limited Warranty,
- Emission System Warranty,
- Emission Performance Warranty,
- California, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont Emission Control System Warranty (California, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont only),
- State Warranty Enforcement Laws (Lemon Laws).

Important notice for California retail buyers of Mercedes-Benz automobiles

Under California law you may be entitled to a replacement of your vehicle or a refund of the purchase price or lease price, if Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC and/or its authorized repair or service facilities fail to fix one ore more substantial defects or malfunctions in the vehicle that are covered by its express warranty after a reasonable number of repair attempts. During the period of 18 months from original delivery of the vehicle or the accumulation of 18 000 miles on the odometer of the vehicle, whichever occurs first, a reasonable number of repair attempts is presumed for a retail buyer or lessee if one or more of the following occurs: (1) the same substantial defect or malfunction results in a condition that is likely to cause death or serious bodily injury if the vehicle is driven, that defect or malfunction has been subject to repair two or more times, and you have directly notified Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC in writing of the need for its repair and have given us a direct opportunity to perform a repair ourselves, (2) the same substantial defect or malfunction of a less serious nature than category (1) has been subject to repair four or more times and you have directly notified us of the need for its repair and given us the opportunity to repair ourselves, or (3) the vehicle is out of service by reason of repair of the same or different substantial defects or malfunctions for a cumulative total of more than 30 calender days. Written notification should be sent to us, not a dealer, at Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, Customer Assistance Center, One Mercedes Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645-0350.

Maintenance

The Service Booklet describes all the necessary maintenance work which should be performed at regular intervals.

Always have the Service Booklet with you when you take the vehicle to your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center for service. The service advisor will record each service in the booklet for you.

Roadside assistance

The Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance Program provides factory trained technical help in the event of a breakdown. Calls to the toll-free Roadside Assistance number:

1-800-FOR-MERCedes (in the USA)
1-800-387-0100 (in Canada)

will be answered by Mercedes-Benz Customer Assistance Representatives 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For additional information refer to the Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance Program brochure in your glove box.

Change of address or ownership

If you change your address, be sure to send in the “Change of Address Notice” found in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet, or simply call the Mercedes-Benz Customer Assistance Center (in the USA) at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes, or Customer Service (in Canada) at 1-800-387-0100. It is in your own interest that we can contact you should the need arise.

If you sell your Mercedes, please leave all literature with the vehicle to make it available to the next operator.

If you bought this vehicle used, be sure to send in the “Notice of Purchase of Used Car” found in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet, or call the Mercedes-Benz Customer Assistance Center (in the USA) at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes, or Customer Service (in Canada) at 1-800-387-0100.

Operating your vehicle outside the USA or Canada

If you plan to operate your vehicle in foreign countries, please be aware that:

- Service facilities or replacement parts may not be readily available,
- unleaded gasoline for vehicles with catalytic converters may not be available; the use of leaded fuels will damage the catalysts,
- gasoline may have a considerably lower octane rating, and improper fuel can cause engine damage.

Certain Mercedes-Benz models are available for delivery in Europe under our European Delivery Program. For details, consult your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center or write to:

In the USA:

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
European Delivery Department
One Mercedes Drive
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350

In Canada:

Mercedes-Benz Canada, Inc.
European Delivery Department
849 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4G 2L5

We continuously strive to improve our product, and ask for your understanding that we reserve the right to make changes in design and equipment. Therefore, information, illustrations and descriptions in this Operator's Manual might differ from your vehicle.

Optional equipment is also described in this manual, including operating instructions wherever necessary. Since they are special-order items, the descriptions and illustrations herein may vary slightly from the actual equipment of your vehicle.

If there are any equipment details that are not shown or described in this Operator's Manual, your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will be glad to inform you of correct care and operating procedures.

The Operator's Manual and Service Booklet are important documents and should be kept with the vehicle.

Where to find it

The Operator's Manual is divided into eight sections:

- **Instruments and controls:** An overview of all the controls that can be operated from the driver's seat.
- **Operation:** Information on the vehicle's equipment and its operation.
- **Driving:** Important information on driving.
- **Instrument cluster display:** Indicator lamps on the instrument cluster with brief instructions.
- **Practical hints:** Assistance and instructions in the event of an emergency.
- **Car care:** Instructions on caring for your vehicle.
- **Technical data:** All the important technical data for your vehicle as well as consumer information such as fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. is contained here.
- **Index:** Key terms to help you find a topic quickly.

Other documents may also be supplied, depending on your vehicle's equipment.

Explanation of color used:

Warning notices for the protection of yourself and others appear on red background.

Problems with your vehicle

If you should experience a problem with your vehicle, particularly one that you believe may affect its safe operation, we urge you to immediately contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center to have the problem diagnosed and corrected if required. If the matter is not handled to your satisfaction, please discuss the problem with the Mercedes-Benz Center management, or if necessary contact us at the following addresses:

In the USA:
Customer Assistance Center
Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
One Mercedes Drive
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350

In Canada:
Customer Relations Department
Mercedes-Benz Canada, Inc.
849 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario, M4G 2L5

For the USA only:
The following text is published as required of manufacturers under Title 49, Code of U.S. Federal Regulations, Part 575 pursuant to the “National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966”.

Reporting Safety Defects

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

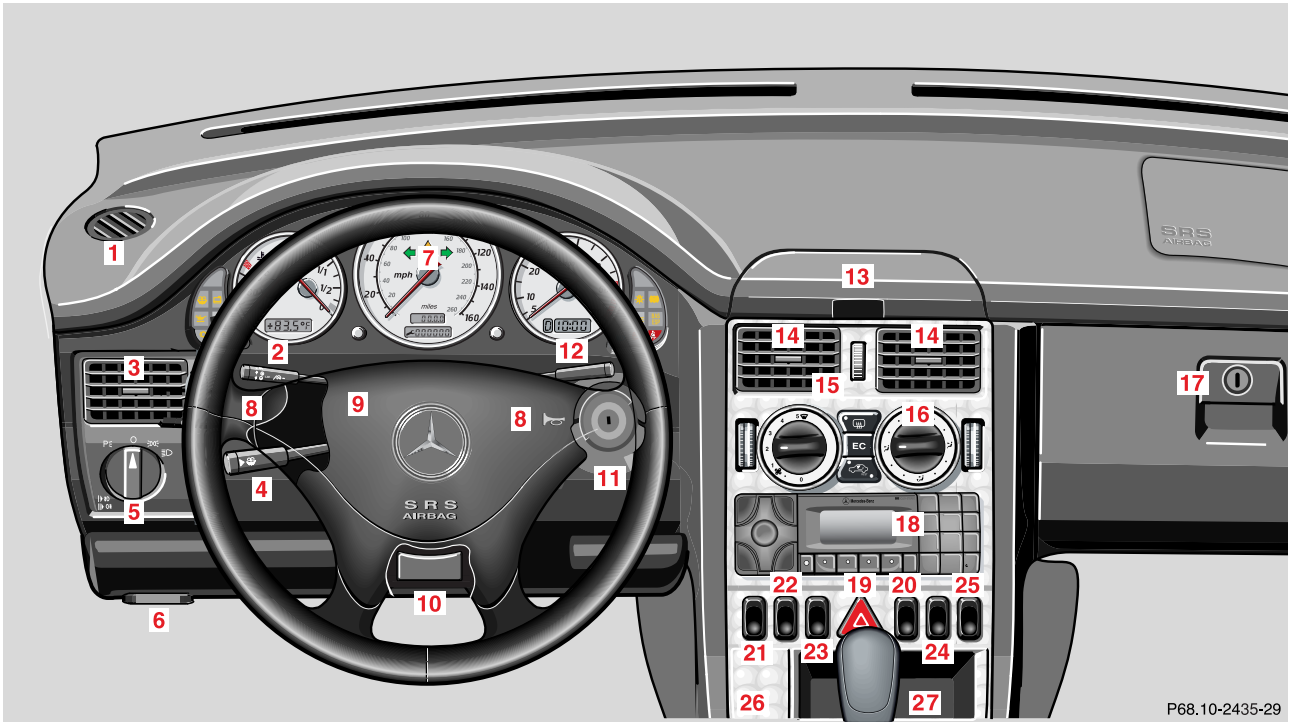
If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free at 1-888-327-4236 or write to: NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.
You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.

Instruments and controls

Instruments and controls 16
Center console 18
Overhead control panel 19

Instruments and controls



1 Side defroster outlet, adjustable

2 Cruise control switch, see page 166

3 Side air outlet, adjustable

4 Combination switch, see page 83

5 Exterior lamp switch, see page 81

6 Hood lock release, see page 194

7 Instrument cluster, see page 70

8 Horn (with key in steering lock position 1 or 2)

9 Airbag

10 Steering wheel adjustment handle, see page 65

11 Steering lock with ignition/starter switch, see page 142

12 Voice recognition system switch, see separate operating instructions

13 Cup holder, see page 114

14 Center air outlets, adjustable

15 Air volume control for center air outlets

16 Climate control, see page 86
Rear window defroster, see page 90

17 Glove box (illuminated with key in steering lock position 1 or 2), see page 114

18 Audio system, see page 93

19 Hazard warning flasher switch, see page 85

20 Central locking switch, see page 30

21 Left seat heater switch, see page 42

22 Headlamp washer switch, see page 82

23 ESP control switch, see page 175

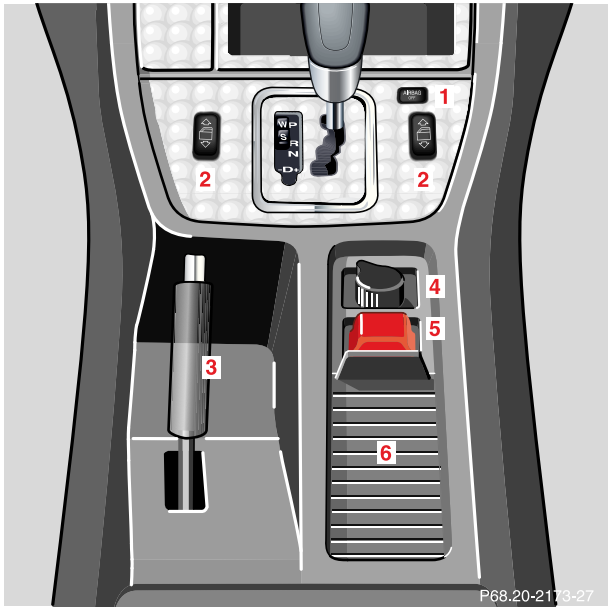
24 Tow-away alarm switch, see page 37

25 Right seat heater switch, see page 42

26 Ashtray, coin holder, see page 116

27 Storage compartment

Center console



1 AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp, see page 190

2 Power window switch, see page 111

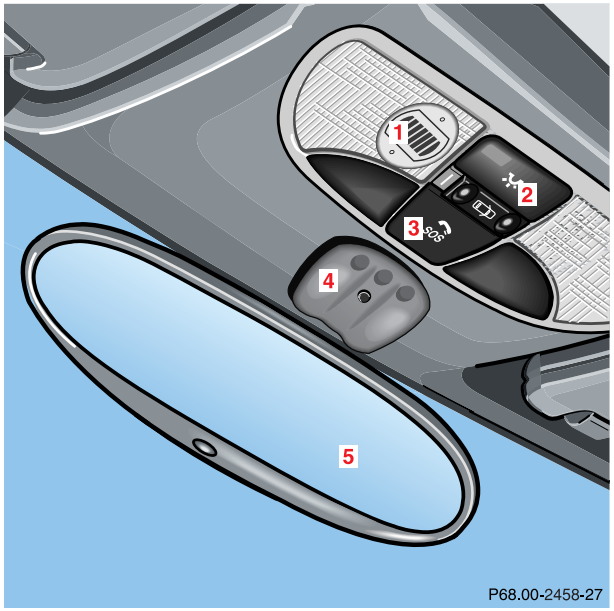
3 Parking brake lever, see page 156

4 Mirror adjustment switch, see page 66

5 Hardtop operation switch, see page 122

6 Lighter, see page 117
Storage compartment, see page 115

Overhead control panel



1 Hands-free microphone for Tele Aid, telephone and voice recognition system

2 Interior lighting, see page 112

3 Tele Aid (emergency call system), see page 132

4 Garage door opener, see page 119

5 Rear view mirror, see page 66

Operation

Vehicle keys 22
Remote control with folding master key 22
Start lock-out 23
General notes on the central locking system 23
Central locking system 24
Remote control 24
Panic button 26
Mechanical keys 27
Doors 28
Central locking switch 30
Automatic central locking 31
Emergency unlocking in case of accident 32
Trunk 33
Emergency release for trunk lid 35
Antitheft alarm system 35
Tow-away alarm 37
Seats 38
Seat heater 42
Seat belts and integrated restraint system 44
Seat belts 44
Seat belt nonusage warning system 45
BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system 51
Self-test BabySmart™ without special child seat installed 51
Supplemental restraint system (SRS) 52
Emergency tensioning retractor (ETR) 53
Airbags 54
Safety guidelines for the seat belt, emergency tensioning retractor and airbag 61
Infant and child restraint systems 63
Adjusting telescoping steering column 65
Rear view mirrors 66
Instrument cluster 70
Flexible service system (FSS) 77
Checking engine oil level 79
Engine oil consumption 80
Exterior lamp switch 81
Headlamp cleaning system 82
Combination switch 83
Hazard warning flasher switch 85
Climate control 86

Rear window defroster 90
Audio and telephone, operation 93
Power windows 111
Interior lighting 112
Night security illumination 112
Sun visors with Vanity Mirror 113
Interior 113
Cup holder and glove box 114
Storage compartments 115
Ashtrays 116
Coin Holder 116
Lighter 117
Parcel net in passenger footwell .. 118
Shelf behind roll bars 118
Cellular telephone 118
Garage door opener 119
Retractable hardtop 122
Wind screen 127
Luggage cover 128

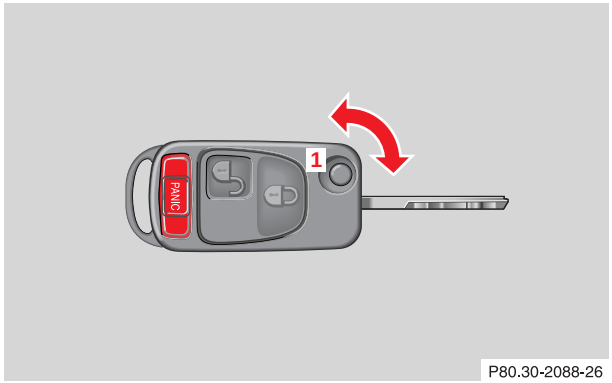
Vehicle keys

Included with your vehicle are 2 remote controls with folding master keys.

Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock your vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment may cause serious personal injury.

Remote control with folding master key



The remote control operates all locks on the vehicle.

To release the key, press button (1). The key unfolds from the holder by itself.

The transmitter for the remote control is located in the key holder.

Obtaining replacement keys

Your vehicle is equipped with a theft deterrent locking system requiring a special key manufacturing process. For security reasons, replacement keys can only be obtained from your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Start lock-out

Important!

Removing the key from the steering lock activates the start lock-out. The engine cannot be started.

Turning the key in the steering lock to position 2 deactivates the start lock-out.

Note:

In case the engine cannot be started, and  and  are shown in the odometer display field, the system is not operational. Contact an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center or call 1-800-FOR-MERCedes (in the USA), or 1-800-387-0100 (in Canada).

General notes on the central locking system

If the key in the steering lock is in position 2, the vehicle cannot be locked or unlocked with the remote control.

If the vehicle cannot be locked or unlocked:

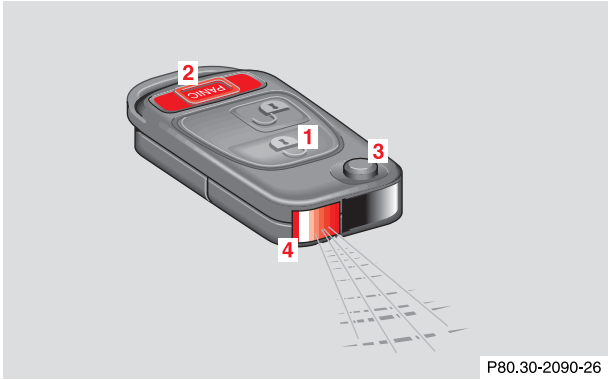
- Check the batteries of the remote control, see page 236.
- Synchronize the remote control, see page 237.

Central locking system

Remote control

Due to the extended operational range of the remote control, it could be possible to unintentionally lock or unlock the vehicle by pressing the transmit button.

The vehicle doors, trunk, storage compartment in armrest, and fuel filler flap can be centrally locked and unlocked via remote control.



1 Transmit button

Locking

Unlocking

2 PANIC button

3 Release button for master key

4 Transmitter eye and lamp for battery check

Locking and unlocking with remote control

Unlocking:

Press transmit button . All turn signal lamps blink once to indicate that the vehicle is unlocked.

The remote control can be programmed for two kinds of unlocking modes (see below):

Selective unlocking mode –
Press transmit button once to unlock driver's door, storage compartment in armrest, and fuel filler flap. Press transmit button twice to unlock both doors, storage compartment in armrest, fuel filler flap, and trunk.

Global unlocking mode –
Press transmit button once to unlock both doors, storage compartment in armrest, fuel filler flap, and trunk.

Notes:

The presently active unlocking mode (selective or global) can only be determined by unlocking the vehicle with the remote control (see below for changing mode).

If within 40 seconds of unlocking with the remote control, neither door is opened, the key is not inserted in the steering lock, or the central locking switch is not activated, the vehicle will automatically lock.

Locking:

Press transmit button once. All turn signal lamps blink three times to indicate that the vehicle is locked.

If the turn signal lamps do not blink, a door or trunk is not closed properly.

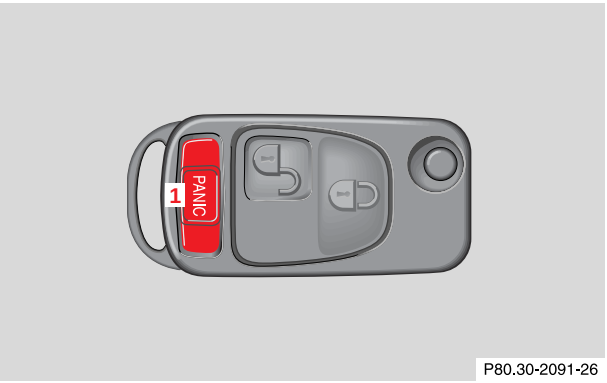
Note:

If the vehicle cannot be locked or unlocked by pressing the transmit button, then it may be necessary to change the batteries in the remote control (if ok, battery check lamp in transmitter will light briefly when transmitting) or to synchronize the remote control, see page 236 and 237.

Choosing global or selective mode on remote control

Press and hold transmit buttons and simultaneously for five seconds to reprogram the remote control. Battery check lamp will blink two times indicating the completed mode change.

Panic button



To activate press and hold button (1) for at least one second. An audible alarm and blinking exterior lamps will operate for approximately 3 minutes.

To deactivate press button (1) again, or turn key in steering lock to position 2.

Note:

For operation in the USA only: This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and

(2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Any unauthorized modification to this device could void to the user's authority to operate the equipment.

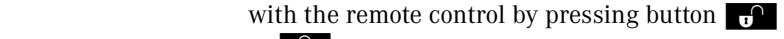
Mechanical keys

The mechanical keys fit all locks on the vehicle.

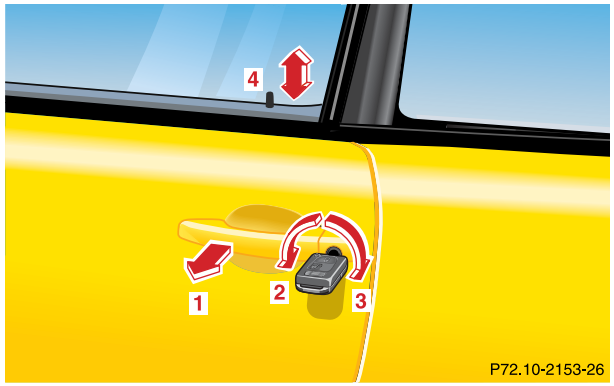
Remove the protective cap from the driver's door lock before inserting the mechanical key into the lock.

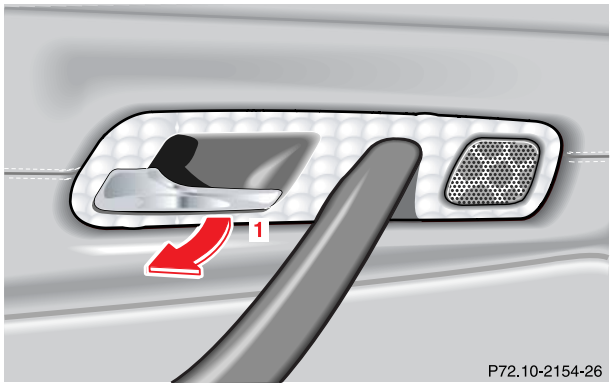
Notes:

Use of the key does not operate the central locking system or arm or disarm the antitheft alarm system.

The alarm sounds when unlocking the door. Cancel alarm by turning key in steering lock to position 1, or with the remote control by pressing button  or .

Doors





1 Opening – pull handle

2 Unlocking

3 Locking

4 Individual door from inside:

- Push lock button down to lock.
- Pull inside door handle to unlock.

The entire vehicle may be locked or unlocked by either using the master key in driver's door or trunk locks, or central locking switch located in center console. The master key also locks or unlocks the storage compartment in the armrest, and the fuel filler flap.

Note:

If the fuel filler flap cannot be opened, see page 244.

When you lock the vehicle, both door lock buttons should move down. If any one stays up, the respective door is not properly closed.

You should then unlock the vehicle, open and reclose this door, and lock the vehicle again. Each individual door can be locked with the respective door lock button – the driver's door can only be locked when it is closed.

If the vehicle has previously been locked from the outside, only the door being opened from the inside will unlock, and the alarm will come on. The other door, the trunk, the storage compartment in armrest, and fuel filler flap remain locked.

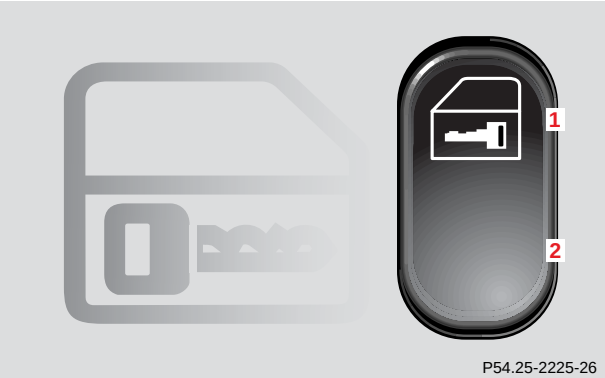
Notes:

In case of a malfunction in the central locking system the doors can be locked and unlocked individually.

To lock, turn key in driver's door lock to position 3 or push down lock buttons.

To unlock, turn key in driver's door lock to position 2 or pull inside door handles.

Central locking switch



1 Locking

2 Unlocking

The central locking switch is located in the center console.

The doors and trunk can only be locked with the central locking switch, if both doors are closed.

If the vehicle was previously locked with the remote control or key, the doors and trunk cannot be unlocked with the central locking switch.

If the vehicle was previously locked with the central locking switch, while in the selective remote control mode, only the door opened from the inside is unlocked.

If the vehicle was previously locked with the central locking switch, while in the global remote control mode, the complete vehicle is unlocked when a door is opened from the inside.

Note:

The storage compartment in the armrest as well as the fuel filler flap cannot be locked or unlocked with the central locking switch.

Automatic central locking

The central locking switch also operates the automatic central locking.

With the automatic central locking system activated, the doors and trunk are locked at vehicle speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or more. The fuel filler flap and the storage compartment in the armrest remain unlocked.

To activate:

With key in steering lock position 2 hold upper portion of switch (1) for a minimum of 5 seconds.

To deactivate:

With key in steering lock position 2 hold lower portion of switch (2) for a minimum of 5 seconds.

Notes:

If doors are unlocked with the central locking switch after activating the automatic central locking, and neither door is opened, then the doors remain unlocked even at vehicle speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or more.

If a door is opened from the inside at speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or less with the automatic central locking activated, the door will again be automatically locked at speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or more.

Important!

When towing the vehicle, or with the vehicle on a dynamometer test stand, please, note the following:

With the automatic central locking activated and the key in steering lock position 2, the vehicle doors will lock if the left front wheel as well as the right rear wheel spin at vehicle speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or more.

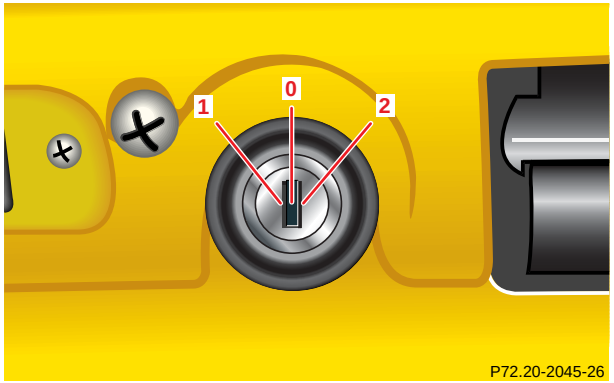
To prevent the vehicle door locks from locking, deactivate the automatic central locking.

Emergency unlocking in case of accident

The doors unlock automatically a short time after a strong deceleration is detected, such as in a collision (this is intended to aid rescue and exit). However, the key must still be in the steering lock.

Driving on rough roads may cause the vehicle to unlock. If necessary, the vehicle can be locked again with the central locking switch, see page 30.

Trunk

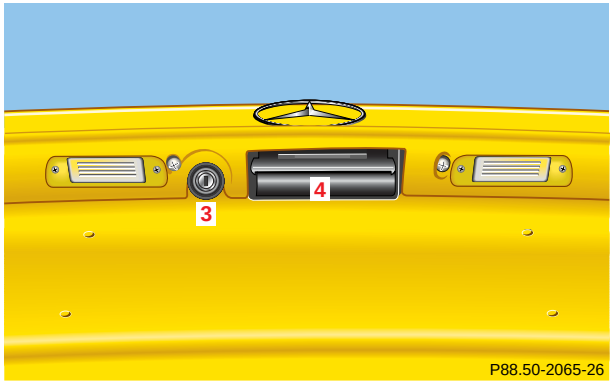


The lock is located next to the recessed handle.

0 Neutral position – remove key in this position.

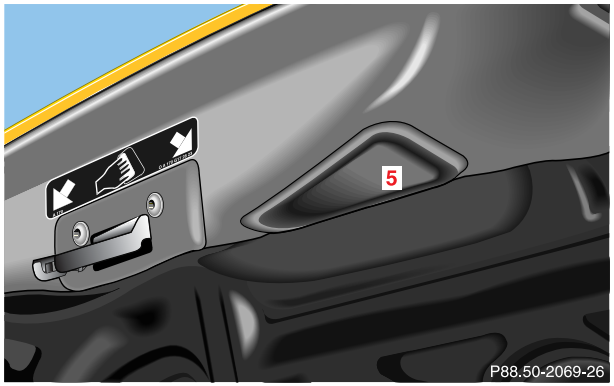
1 Unlocking
Now open trunk using recessed handle (4).

2 Locking (complete vehicle)



3 Lock

4 Recessed handle
Pull handle to open the trunk lid.



Lower trunk lid using handle (5) and close it with hands placed flat on edges on trunk lid. Please remember to keep your fingers out of the space between the lid and the vehicle.

Notes:

In case of a malfunction in the central locking system the trunk can be locked and unlocked individually.

To lock, turn key to position 2.

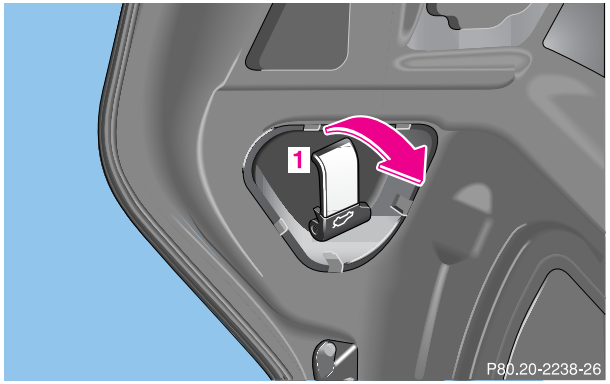
To unlock, turn key to position 1.

If the fuel filler flap cannot be opened, see page 244.

Important!

Do not place key inside trunk, since trunk is locked when the lid is closed if the vehicle has been previously centrally locked.

Emergency release for trunk lid



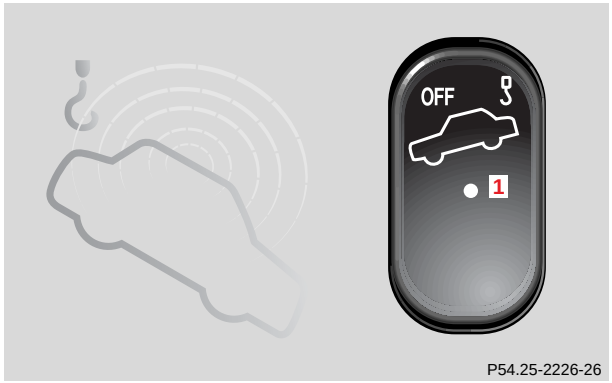
The handle for the trunk lid lock emergency release is located in the trunk lid.

To open lid, pull lever (1) in direction of arrow.

Note:

The antitheft alarm system is triggered when opening the trunk from inside if vehicle was previously centrally locked.

Antitheft alarm system



1 Indicator lamp in switch located on center console

The antitheft alarm is automatically armed or disarmed with the remote control or any of your vehicle's keys by locking or unlocking the vehicle.

The antitheft alarm is armed within approximately 10 seconds after locking the vehicle.

A blinking lamp (1) indicates that the alarm is armed.

Operation:

Once the alarm system has been armed, the exterior vehicle lamps will flash and an alarm will sound when someone:

- opens a door,
- opens the trunk,
- opens the hood,
- opens the glove box,
- attempts to raise the vehicle.

The alarm will last approximately 3 minutes in form of flashing exterior lamps. At the same time an alarm will sound for 30 seconds. The alarm will stay on even if the activating element (a door, for example) is immediately closed. If the alarm stays on for more than 20 seconds, an emergency call is initiated automatically. See Tele Aid on page 132.

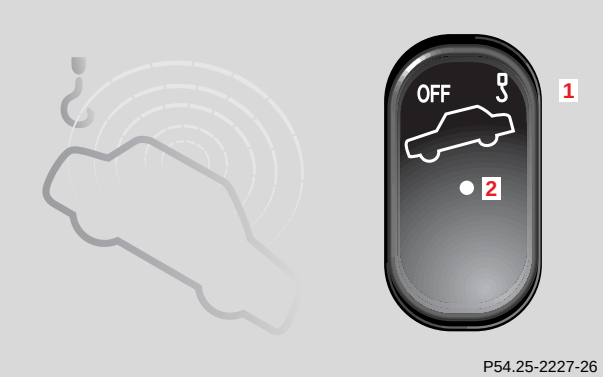
Note:

We recommend that you carry the flat key with you and keep it in a safe place (e.g. your wallet) so that it is always handy. Never leave the flat key in the vehicle.

When you unlock the driver's door with the mechanical key, the exterior lamps will flash and the alarm will sound.

To cancel the alarm, insert the key in the steering lock or press transmit button or on the key.

Tow-away alarm



The switch is located on the center console.

1 Press to switch off

2 Indicator lamp

Once the alarm system has been armed, the exterior vehicle lamps will flash and an alarm will sound when someone attempts to raise the vehicle.

The alarm will last approximately 3 minutes in form of flashing exterior lamps. At the same time an alarm will sound for 30 seconds. The alarm will stay on even if the vehicle is immediately lowered. To cancel the alarm, insert the key in the steering lock or press transmit button or on the key.

If the alarm stays on for more than 20 seconds, an emergency call is initiated automatically. See Tele Aid on page 132.

To prevent triggering the tow-away alarm feature, switch off the tow-away alarm before towing the vehicle, or when parking on a surface subject to movement, such as a ferry or auto train.

To do so, turn key in steering lock to position 0 or 1, or remove key from steering lock. Press tow-away alarm switch (1). The indicator lamp (2) illuminates briefly.

Exit vehicle, and lock vehicle with key or remote control.

The tow-away alarm remains switched off until the vehicle is locked again with key or remote control, at which time it is automatically reactivated.

Power seats

Warning!

Do not adjust the driver's seat while driving. Adjusting the seat while driving could cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle.

Never place hands under seat or near any moving parts while a seat is being adjusted.

For your protection, drive only with properly positioned head restraints.

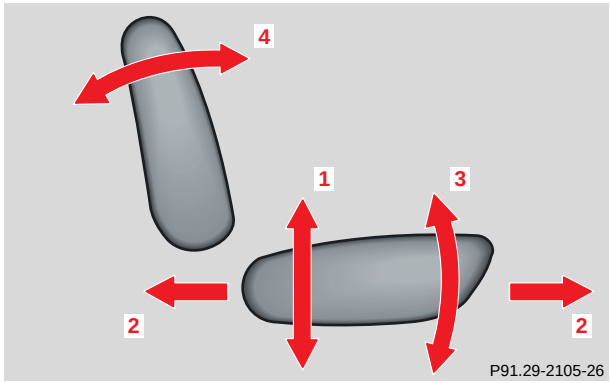
Adjust head restraint to support the back of the head approximately at ear level.

Do not drive the vehicle without the seat head restraints. Head restraints are intended to help reduce injuries during an accident.

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock your vehicle.

The power seats can also be operated with driver's or passenger door open. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment may cause serious personal injury.

To operate the power seat adjustment switches, turn key in steering lock to position 1 or 2 (with a door open, the power seats can also be operated with the key removed or in steering lock position 0).



The switches are located on each seat.

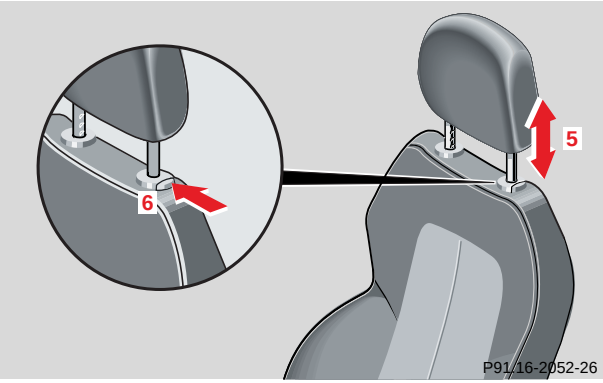
We recommend to adjust the seats in the following order:

1 **Seat, up/down**
Press the switch (up/down direction) until comfortable seating position with still sufficient headroom is reached.

2 **Seat adjustment, fore/aft**
Press the switch (fore/aft direction) until a comfortable seating position is reached that still allows you to reach the accelerator/brake pedal safely. The position should be as far rearward as possible, consistent with ability to properly operate controls.

3 **Seat cushion tilt**
Press the switch in the direction of the arrow until your legs are lightly supported.

4 **Backrest tilt**
Press the switch in the direction of the arrow until your arms are slightly angled when holding the steering wheel.



5 Head restraint height

6 Head restraint release

Head restraint height

Raising:
Pull up on head restraint.

Lowering:
Push down on head restraint.

Adjust head restraint to support the back of the head approximately at ear level.

For removal or installation of head restraint, first open the roof.

Removal:
Pull head restraint to its highest position. Push button (6) and pull head restraint out.

Installation:
Insert the head restraint and push it down to the stop.

Adjust head restraint to the desired position.

Warning!

For your protection, drive only with properly positioned head restraints.

Adjust head restraint to support the back of the head approximately at ear level.

Do not drive the vehicle without the seat head restraints. Head restraints are intended to help reduce injuries during an accident.

Caution!

Do not remove head restraints except when mounting seat covers. Whenever restraints have been removed be sure to reinstall them before driving.

Important!

Prior to operating the vehicle, the driver should adjust the seat height for proper vision as well as fore/aft placement and backrest angle to insure adequate control, reach, operation, and comfort. The head restraint should also be adjusted for proper height. See also airbag section for proper seat positioning.

In addition also adjust the steering wheel to ensure adequate control, reach, operation, and comfort.

Both the inside and outside rear view mirrors should be adjusted for adequate rearward vision.

Fasten seat belts. Infants and small children should be seated in a properly secured restraint system that complies with U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 and Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.1.

All seat, head restraint, steering wheel and rear view mirror adjustments as well as fastening of seat belts should be done before the vehicle is put into motion.

Seat heater (optional)



The seat heater switches are located in the center console.

The seat heaters can be switched on with the key in steering lock positions 1 or 2.

Press switch to turn on seat heater:

1 Normal seat heating mode. One indicator lamp in the switch lights up.

2 Rapid seat heating mode. Both indicator lamps in the switch light up. After approximately 5 minutes in the rapid seat heating mode, the seat heater automatically switches to normal operation and only one indicator lamp will stay on.

Turning off seat heater:

If one indicator lamp is on, press upper half of switch.

If both indicator lamps are on, press lower half of switch.

If left on, the seat heater automatically turns off after approximately 30 minutes of operation.

Notes:

When in operation, the seat heater consumes a large amount of electrical power. It is not advisable to use the seat heater longer than necessary.

The seat heaters may automatically switch off if too many power consumers are switched on at the same time, or if the battery charge is low. When this occurs, the indicator lamp in the switch will blink (both indicator lamps blink during rapid seat heating mode). The seat heaters will switch on again automatically as soon as sufficient voltage is available.

If the blinking of the indicator lamps is distracting to you, the seat heaters can be switched off.

Seat belts and integrated restraint system

Your vehicle is equipped with lap-shoulder seat belts, emergency tensioning retractors for the seat belts, front and side airbags for driver and passenger, as well as a knee bolster for the driver's seat.

Seat belts

Important!

Laws in most states and all Canadian provinces require seat belt use.

All states and provinces require use of child restraints that comply with U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 and Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.

All child restraint systems are designed to be secured in vehicle seats by lap belts or the lap belt portion of a lap-shoulder belt.

For your safety and that of your passenger we strongly recommend their use.

Warning!

Children 12 years old and under must never ride in this vehicle, except in a Mercedes-Benz authorized BabySmart™ compatible child seat, which operates with the BabySmart™ system installed in the vehicle to deactivate the passenger front airbag when it is properly installed. Otherwise they will be struck by the airbag when it inflates in a crash. If this happens, serious or fatal injury will result.

Infants and small children must be seated in an appropriate infant or child restraint system, which is properly secured with the vehicle's seat belt, fully in accordance with the child seat manufacturer's instructions.

A child's risk of serious or fatal injuries is significantly increased if the child restraints are not properly secured in the vehicle and the child is not properly secured in the child restraint.

Note:

For cleaning and care of the seat belts, see page 252.

Seat belt nonusage warning system

With the key in steering lock position 2, a warning sounds for a short time if the driver's seat belt is not fastened.

Warning!

Failure to wear and properly fasten and position your seat belt greatly increases your risk of injuries and their likely severity in an accident. You and your passenger should always wear seat belts.

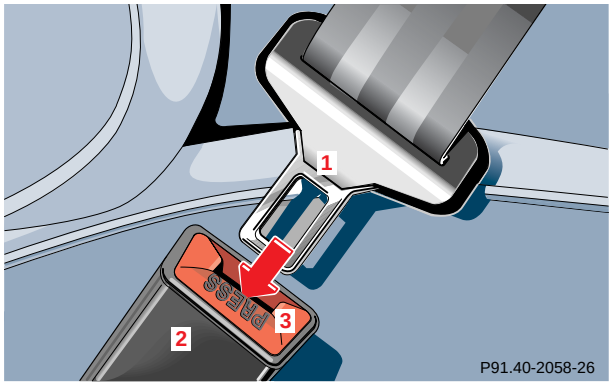
If you are ever in an accident, your injuries can be considerably more severe without your seat belt properly buckled. Without your seat belt buckled, you are much more likely to hit the interior of the vehicle or be ejected from it. You can be seriously injured or killed.

In the same crash, the possibility for injury or death is lessened if you are wearing your seat belt.

Warning!

Never let more people ride in the vehicle than there are seat belts available. Be sure everyone riding in the vehicle is correctly restrained with a separate seat belt.

Fastening of seat belts



1 Latch plate

2 Buckle

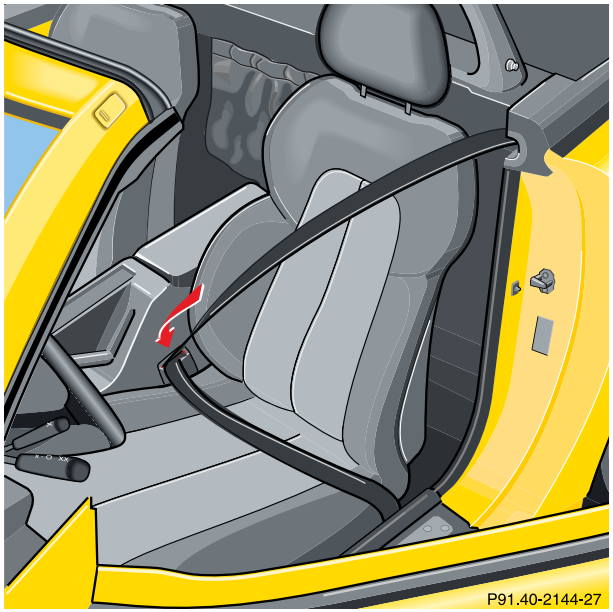
3 Release button

Push latch plate (1) into buckle (2) until it clicks. Do not twist the belt. A twisted seat belt may cause injury.

To help avoid severe or fatal injuries, the lap belt should be positioned as low as possible on your hips and not across the abdomen.

Warning!

Always fasten your seat belt before driving off. Always make sure your passenger is properly restrained.



Tighten the lap portion to a snug fit by pulling shoulder portion up.

The shoulder portion of the seat belt must be pulled snug and checked for snugness immediately after attaching it.

Adjust seat belt so that shoulder portion is located as close as possible to the middle of your shoulder (it should not touch the neck).

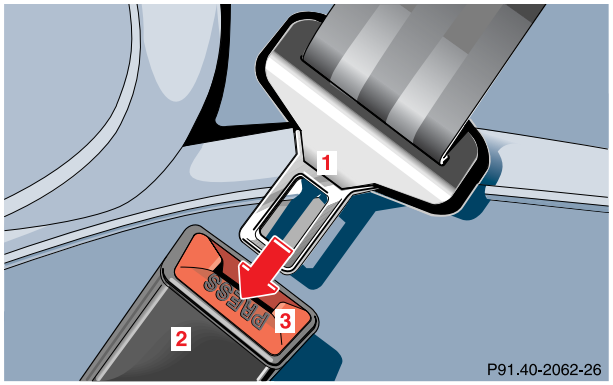
Caution!

For safety reasons, avoid adjusting the seat or seat back into positions which could affect the correct seat belt positioning.

Note:

For cleaning and care of the seat belts, see cleaning and care of the vehicle on page 252.

Unfastening of seat belts



Push the release button (3) in the belt buckle (2).

Allow the retractor to completely rewind the seat belt by guiding the latch plate (1).

Operation

The inertia reel stops the belt from unwinding during sudden vehicle stops or when quickly pulling on the belt.

The locking function of the reel may be checked by quickly pulling out the belt.

Warning!

USE SEAT BELTS PROPERLY.

- **Seat belts can only work when used properly. Never wear seat belts in any other way than as described in this section, as that could result in serious injuries in case of an accident.**
- **Each occupant should wear their seat belt at all times, because seat belts help reduce the likelihood of and potential severity of injuries in accidents, including rollovers. The integrated restraint system includes “SRS” (driver airbag, passenger airbag, door mounted side impact airbags), “ETR” (seat belt emergency tensioning retractors), and driver knee bolster. The system is designed to enhance the protection offered to properly belted occupants in certain frontal (front airbags) and side (side impact airbags) impacts which exceed preset deployment thresholds.**

- Position the lap belt as low as possible on your hips and not across the abdomen. If the belt is positioned across your abdomen, it can cause serious injuries in a crash.
- Never wear belts over rigid or breakable objects in or on your clothing, such as eyeglasses, pens, keys etc., as these might cause injuries.
- Never wear the shoulder belt under your arm, against you neck or off your shoulder. In a crash, your body would move too far forward. That would increase the chance of head and neck injuries. The belt would also apply too much force to the ribs or abdomen, which could severely injure internal organs such as your liver or spleen.

- Each seat belt must never be used for more than one person at a time. Do not fasten a seat belt around a person and another person or other objects.
- Belts should not be worn twisted. In a crash, you wouldn't have the full width of the belt to manage impact forces. The twisted belt against your body could cause injuries.
- Pregnant women should also use a lap-shoulder belt. The lap belt portion should be positioned as low as possible on the hips to avoid pressure on the abdomen.
- Never place your feet on the instrument panel or on the seat. Always keep both feet on the floor in front of the seat.

Warning!

USE CHILD RESTRAINTS PROPERLY.

Children 12 years old and under must never ride in this vehicle, except in a Mercedes-Benz authorized BabySmart™ compatible child seat, which operates with the BabySmart™ system installed in the vehicle to deactivate the passenger front airbag when it is properly installed. Otherwise they will be struck by the airbag when it inflates in a crash. If this happens, serious or fatal injury will result.

Infants and small children must be seated in an appropriate infant or child restraint system, which is properly secured with the vehicle's seat belt, fully in accordance with the child seat manufacturer's instructions.

A child's risk of serious or fatal injuries is significantly increased if the child restraints are not properly secured in the vehicle and the child is not properly secured in the child restraint.

Adjust the passenger seat as far as possible rearward from the dashboard when the seat is occupied.

BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system

Special BabySmart™ compatible child seats, designed for use with the Mercedes-Benz system and available at any authorized Mercedes-Benz Center are required for use with the BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system.

With the special child seat properly installed, the passenger front airbag will not deploy. The AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp located on the center console will be illuminated, except with key removed or in steering lock position 0. The system does not deactivate the door mounted side impact airbag.

Warning!

The BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system will ONLY work with a special child seat designed to operate with it. It will not work with child seats which are not BabySmart™ compatible.

Never place anything between seat cushion and child seat (e.g. pillow), since it reduces the effectiveness of the deactivation system. The bottom of the child seat must make full contact with the passenger seat cushion. An incorrectly mounted child seat could cause injuries to the child in case of an accident instead of protecting the child.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation of special child seats.

The passenger front airbag will not deploy only if the AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp remains illuminated.

Please be sure to check the indicator every time you use the special system child seat. Should the light go out while the restraint is installed, please check installation. If the light remains out, do not use the BabySmart™ restraint to transport children on the passenger seat until the system has been repaired.

Self-test BabySmart™ without special child seat installed

After turning key in steering lock to position 1 or 2, the AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp located on the center console comes on for approximately 6 seconds and then extinguishes.

If the indicator lamp should not come on or is continuously lit, the system is not functioning. You must see an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center before seating any child on the passenger seat.

BabySmart™ is a trademark of Siemens Automotive Corp.

Supplemental restraint system (SRS)

Airbags are intended as a supplement to seat belts. Airbags alone cannot protect as well as airbags plus seat belts in impacts for which the airbags were designed to operate, and do not afford any protection whatsoever in crashes for which the airbags are not designed to deploy.

The SRS uses two crash severity levels (thresholds) to activate either the Emergency Tensioning Retractor (ETR) or front airbag or both. Activation depends on the direction and severity of the impact exceeding the preset thresholds and whether the seat belt is fastened.

Seat belt fastened

- first threshold exceeded:
 ETR activates
- second threshold exceeded:
 airbag also activates

Seat belt not fastened

- first threshold exceeded:
 airbag activates, but not ETR

Driver and passenger systems operate independently of each other.

Emergency tensioning retractor (ETR)

The seat belts are equipped with emergency tensioning retractors. These tensioning retractors are located in each belt's inertia reel and become operationally ready with the key in steering lock position 1 or 2.

The emergency tensioning retractors are designed to activate only when the seat belts are fastened during frontal and front-angled impacts and rear impacts exceeding the first threshold of the SRS and in rear impacts exceeding a preset severity level. They remove slack from the belts in such a way that the seat belts fit more snugly against the body restricting its forward movement as much as possible.

In cases of other frontal impacts, roll-overs, certain side impacts, rear collisions or other accidents without sufficient frontal or rear impact forces, the emergency tensioning retractors will not be activated. The driver and passenger will then be protected by the fastened seat belts and inertia reel in the usual manner.

For seat belt and emergency tensioning retractor safety guidelines see page 61.

Note:

The passenger ETR activates only if the passenger seat is occupied.

Heavy objects on the passenger seat can appear to the "SRS" to indicate the presence of an occupant in that seat which causes the passenger front airbag to deploy and the ETR to activate in a crash exceeding the appropriate treshhold.

Airbags



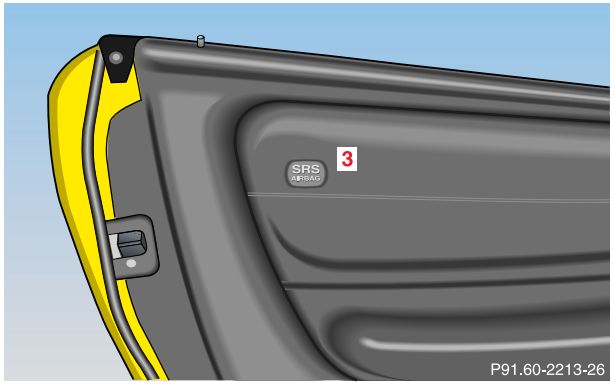
1 Driver airbag

The driver airbag is located in the steering wheel hub.



2 Passenger airbag

The passenger airbag is located in the dashboard ahead of the passenger.



3 Side impact airbag

The side impact airbags are located in the doors.

The most effective occupant restraint system yet developed for use in production vehicles is the seat belt. In some cases, however, the protective effect of a seat belt can be further enhanced by an airbag.

In conjunction with wearing the seat belts, the driver and passenger airbags can provide increased protection for the driver and passenger in certain frontal impacts exceeding preset thresholds.

Door mounted side impact airbags can provide increased protection to belted occupants on the impacted side of the vehicle in side impacts exceeding its preset thresholds.

The operational readiness of the airbag system is verified by the indicator lamp “SRS” in the instrument cluster when turning the key in steering lock to position 2. If no fault is detected, the lamp will go out after approximately 4 seconds: after the lamp goes out, the system continues to monitor the components and circuitry of the airbag system and will indicate a malfunction by coming on again. If the lamp does not come on at all or if it fails to extinguish after approximately 4 seconds or if it comes on thereafter, a malfunction in the system has been detected.

The following system components are monitored or undergo a selfcheck: crash-sensor(s), airbag ignition circuits, seat belt buckles, emergency tensioning retractors, seat sensor.

Initially, when the key is turned from steering lock position 0 to positions 1 or 2, malfunctions in the crash-sensor are detected and indicated (the “SRS” indicator lamp stays on longer than 4 seconds or does not come on). In the operational mode, after the indicator lamp has gone out following the initial check, interruptions or short circuits in the airbag ignition circuit and in the driver and passenger seat belt buckle harnesses, and low voltage in the entire system are detected and indicated.

Have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center immediately.

Warning!

In the event a malfunction of the “SRS” is indicated as outlined above, the “SRS” may not be operational. For your safety, we strongly recommend that you visit an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center immediately to have the system checked; otherwise the “SRS” may not be activated when needed in an accident, which could result in serious or fatal injury, or it might deploy unexpectedly and unnecessary which could also result in injury.

Front airbags

The driver and passenger front airbags are designed to activate only in certain frontal impacts exceeding a preset threshold.

The passenger front airbag deploys only if the passenger seat is occupied, and the AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp on the center console is not illuminated.

Note:

Heavy objects on the passenger seat can cause the passenger front airbag to deploy in a crash.

Side impact airbags

The side impact airbags are designed to activate only in certain side impacts exceeding a preset threshold. Only the side impact airbag on the impacted side of the vehicle deploys.

The side impact airbag for the passenger deploys only if the passenger seat is occupied.

Side impact airbags operate best in conjunction with a properly positioned and fastened seat belt.

Note:

Heavy objects on the passenger seat can appear to the “SRS” to indicate the presence of an occupant in that seat which causes the passenger front airbag to deploy in a crash exceeding the appropriate threshold.

Important!

Airbags are designed to activate only in certain frontal (front airbags) impacts, or side (side impact airbags) impacts which exceed preset thresholds.

Only during these types of impacts, if of sufficient severity to meet the deployment thresholds, will they provide their supplemental protection.

The driver and passenger must always wear their seat belts, otherwise it is not possible for the airbags to provide their intended supplemental protection.

In cases of other frontal impacts, angled impacts, roll-overs, other side impacts, rear collisions, or other accidents in which the airbags are not designed to deploy, the airbags will not be activated. The driver and passenger will then be protected by the fastened seat belts.

We caution you not to rely on the presence of the airbags in order to avoid wearing your seat belt.

Warning!

Airbags are designed to reduce the potential of injury in certain frontal (front airbags) impacts, and side (side impact airbags) impacts which may cause significant injuries, however, no system available today can totally eliminate injuries and fatalities.

The activation of the “SRS” temporarily releases a small amount of dust from the airbags. This dust, however, is neither injurious to your health, nor does it indicate a fire in the vehicle. The dust might cause some temporary breathing difficulty for people with asthma or other breathing trouble. To avoid this, you may wish to get out of the vehicle as soon as it is safe to do so. If you have any breathing difficulty but cannot get out of the vehicle after the airbag inflates, then get fresh air by opening a window or door.

Your vehicle was originally equipped with airbags which are designed to activate in certain impacts exceeding a preset threshold to reduce the potential and severity of injury. It is important to your safety and that of your passenger that you replace deployed airbags and repair any malfunctioning airbags to ensure the vehicle will continue to provide crash protection for occupants.

Warning!

To reduce the risk of injury when the front airbags inflate, it is very important for the driver and passenger to always be in a properly seated position and to wear their seat belts.

For maximum protection in the event of a collision always be in normal seated position with your back against the backrest. Fasten your seat belt and ensure that it is properly positioned on the body.

Since the airbag inflates with considerable speed and force, a proper seating and hands on steering wheel position will help to keep you at a safe distance from the airbag. Occupants who are unbelted, out of position or too close to the airbag can be seriously injured by an airbag as it inflates with great force in the blink of an eye:

- Sit properly belted in an upright position with your back against the backrest.
- Adjust the driver's seat as far as possible rearward, still permitting proper operation of vehicle controls. The distance from the center of the driver's breastbone to the center of the airbag cover on the steering wheel must be at least ten inches (25 cm) or more. You should be able to accomplish this by a combination of adjustments to the seat and steering wheel. If you have any problems, please see your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.
- Do not lean with your head or chest close to the steering wheel or dashboard.
- Keep hands on the outside of steering wheel rim. Placing hands and arms inside the rim can increase the risk and potential severity of hand/arm injury when the driver front airbag inflates.
- Adjust the passenger seat as far as possible rearward from the dashboard when the seat is occupied.

- Occupants, especially children, should never lean their heads in the area of the door where the side airbag inflates. This could result in serious injuries or death should the airbag be triggered. Always sit upright, properly use the seatbelts and appropriate size infant or child restraint system
- Children 12 years old and under must never ride in this vehicle, except in a Mercedes-Benz authorized BabySmart™ compatible child seat, which operates with the BabySmart™ system installed in the vehicle to deactivate the passenger front airbag when it is properly installed. Otherwise they will be struck by the airbag when it inflates in a crash. If this happens, serious or fatal injury can result.

Failure to follow these instructions can result in severe or fatal injuries to you or other occupants.

Warning!

Should you choose to place a child 12 years old or under in the front passenger seat of your vehicle, you must properly use a BabySmart™ child restraint. A BabySmart™ child restraint will turn off the passenger side front airbag. BabySmart™ will not, however, turn off the side impact airbag.

It should be noted that there is a possibility for a side airbag related injury if occupants, especially children, are not properly seated or restrained when next to a side airbag which needs to deploy rapidly in a side impact in order to do its job.

To help avoid the possibility of injury, please follow these guidelines: (1) occupants, especially children, should never place their bodies or lean their heads in the area of the door where the side airbag inflates. This could result in serious injuries or death should the side airbag be activated; (2) always sit upright, properly use the seat belts and use an appropriately sized infant or child restraint system for all children 12 years old or under; and (3) always wear seat belts properly.

If you believe that, even with the use of these guidelines, it would be safer for your front passenger seat occupant to have the passenger side door mounted side airbag deactivated, then deactivation can be accomplished upon your written election to do so at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center at an additional cost. Please contact your local authorized Mercedes-Benz Center or call our Client Assistance Center at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes (1-800-367-6372) for details.

Safety guidelines for the seat belt, emergency tensioning retractor and airbag

Warning!

- Damaged seat belts or belts that were highly stressed in an accident must be replaced and their anchoring points must also be checked. Use only belts installed or supplied by an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.
- Airbags and ETR's are designed to function on a one-time-only basis. An airbag or emergency tensioning retractor (ETR) that was activated must be replaced.
- Do not pass belts over sharp edges.
- Do not make any modification that could change the effectiveness of the belts.
- No modifications of any kind may be made to any components or wiring of the "SRS". This includes changing or removing any component or part of the "SRS", the installation of additional trim material, badges etc. over the steering wheel hub, passenger airbag cover, or door trim panels, and installation of additional electrical/electronic equipment on or near "SRS" components and wiring. Keep area between airbags and occupants free of objects (e.g. packages, purses, umbrellas, etc.).

- **An airbag system component within the steering wheel gets hot after the airbag has inflated. Do not touch.**
- **Improper work on the system, including incorrect installation and removal, can lead to possible injury through an unintended activation of the “SRS”.**
- **In addition, through improper work there is the risk of rendering the “SRS” inoperative or causing unintended airbag deployment. Work on the “SRS” must therefore only be performed by an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.**
- **For your protection and the protection of others, when scrapping the airbag unit or emergency tensioning retractor, our safety instructions must be followed. These instructions are available at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.**
- **Given the considerable deployment speed and the textile structure of the airbags, there is the possibility of abrasions or other injuries resulting from airbag deployment.**

When you sell the vehicle we strongly urge you to give notice to the subsequent owner that it is equipped with an “SRS” by alerting him to the applicable section in the Operator’s Manual.

Infant and child restraint systems

Use only a BabySmart™ compatible child restraint in this vehicle.

We recommend that all infants and children be properly restrained at all times while the vehicle is in motion.

The passenger lap-shoulder belt has a special seat belt retractor for secure fastening of a child restraint.

To fasten a child restraint follow child restraint instructions for routing. Then pull shoulder belt out completely and let it retract. During the seat belt retraction a ratcheting sound can be heard to indicate that the special seat belt retractor is activated. The belt is now locked. Push down on child restraint to take up any slack.

To deactivate, release seat belt buckle and let seat belt retract completely. The seat belt can again be used in the usual manner.

BabySmart™ is a trademark of Siemens Automotive Corp.

Warning!

Never release the seat belt buckle while vehicle is in motion, since the special seat belt retractor will be deactivated.

Important!

The use of infant or child restraints is required by law in all 50 states and all Canadian provinces.

Infants and small children should be seated in an appropriate infant or child restraint system properly secured by a lap-shoulder belt, and that complies with U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 and Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.
A statement by the child restraint manufacturer of compliance with this standard can be found on the instruction label on the restraint and in the instruction manual provided with the restraint.

When using any infant or child restraint system, be sure to carefully read and follow all manufacturer's instructions for installation and use.

Please read and observe warning labels affixed to inside of vehicle and to infant or child restraint.

Warning!

Children 12 years old and under must never ride in this vehicle, except in a Mercedes-Benz authorized BabySmart™ compatible child seat, which operates with the BabySmart™ system installed in the vehicle to deactivate the passenger front airbag when it is properly installed. Otherwise they will be struck by the airbag when it inflates in a crash. If this happens, serious or fatal injury can result.

Infants and small children must be seated in an appropriate infant or child restraint system, which is properly secured with the vehicle's seat belt, fully in accordance with the child seat manufacturer's instructions.

Infants and small children should never share a seat belt with another occupant. During an accident, they could be crushed between the occupant and seat belt.

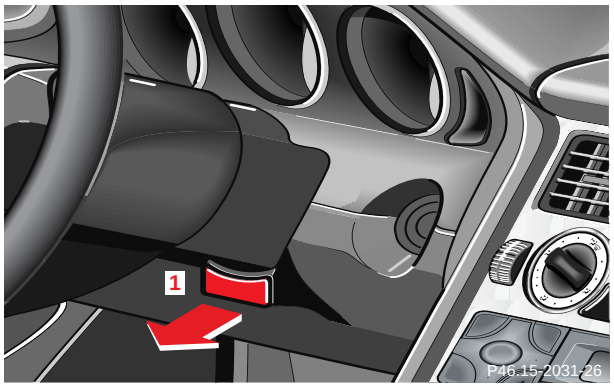
Children too big for child restraint systems should use regular seat belts. Position the shoulder belt across chest and shoulder, not face or neck. A booster seat may be necessary to achieve proper belt positioning for children from 41 lbs. to the point where a lap/shoulder belt fits properly without one.

When the child restraint is not in use, remove it from the vehicle or secure it with the seat belt to prevent the child restraint from becoming a projectile in the event of an accident.

Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle; even if the children are secured in a child restraint system. Unsupervised children in a child restraint system may use vehicle equipment and may cause serious personal injury.

USA Models only:
Since 1986 all U.S. child restraints comply with U.S. regulations without the use of a tether strap.

Adjusting telescoping steering column



Unlocking:
Pull handle (1) out to its stop. The indicator lamp, located in the instrument cluster, comes on.

Adjusting:
To lengthen or shorten the steering column, pull out or push in steering wheel.

Locking:
Push handle (1) in until it engages. The indicator lamp, located in the instrument cluster, goes out.

Warning!

Do not adjust the steering wheel while driving. The telescoping adjustment must be locked while driving. Adjusting the steering wheel while driving, or driving without the telescoping adjustment locked could cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle.

Important!

With the key in steering lock position 2, the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on. It should go out when the engine is running.

If the indicator lamp does not go out after starting the engine, the adjustable steering column is not locked properly.

Do not drive the vehicle until you have properly locked the steering column.

Rear view mirrors

Inside rear view mirror

Manually adjust the inside rear view mirror.

Use your inside rear view mirror to determine the size and distance of objects seen in the passenger-side exterior mirror.

Inside rear view mirror, antiglare mode

With the key in steering lock position 2, the mirror reflection brightness responds to changes in light sensitivity.

With gear selector lever (manual transmission: gearshift lever) in position “R”, or with the interior lamp switched on, the mirror brightness does not respond to changes in light sensitivity.

Note:

The automatic antiglare function does not react, if incoming light is not aimed directly at sensors in the inside rear view mirror.

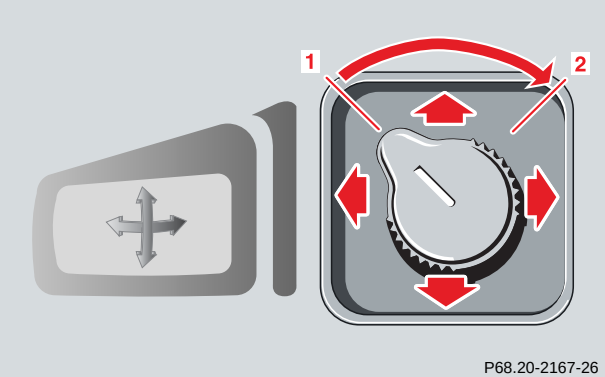
The automatic antiglare function will not react for example, if the wind screen is installed.

Warning!

In the case of an accident liquid electrolyte may escape the mirror housing when the mirror glass breaks.

Electrolyte has an irritating effect. Do not allow the liquid to come into contact with eyes, skin, clothing, or respiratory system. In cases it does, immediately flush affected area with water, and seek medical help if necessary.

Exterior rear view mirrors



The switch is located on the center console.

Warning!

Exercise care when using the passenger-side exterior mirror. The passenger-side exterior mirror is convex (outwardly curved surface for a wider field of view). Objects in mirror are closer than they appear. Check your inside rear view mirror or glance over your shoulder before changing lanes.

Exterior rear view mirror adjustment

Turn key in steering lock to position 2.

First select the mirror to be adjusted – turn switch:

1 Left mirror

2 Right mirror

To adjust, toggle the switch forward, backward or to either side.

Notes:

The exterior mirrors have electrically heated glass. The heater switches on automatically, depending on outside temperature.

If an exterior mirror housing is forcibly pivoted from its normal position, it must be repositioned by applying firm pressure until it snaps into place.

Driver' s side exterior rear view mirror, antiglare mode

With the key in steering lock position 2, the driver's side mirror reflection brightness responds to changes in light sensitivity.

With gear selector lever (manual transmission: gearshift lever) in position "R", or with the interior lamp switched on, the driver's side mirror brightness does not respond to changes in light sensitivity.

Note:

The automatic antiglare function does not react, if incoming light is not aimed directly at sensors in the inside rear view mirror.

The automatic antiglare function will not react for example, if the wind screen is installed.

Warning!

In the case of an accident liquid electrolyte may escape the mirror housing when the mirror glass breaks.

Electrolyte has an irritating effect. Do not allow the liquid come into contact with eyes, skin, clothing, or respiratory system. In cases it does, immediately flush affected area with water, and seek medical help if necessary.

Important!

Electrolyte drops coming into contact with the vehicle paint finish can only be completely removed while in their liquid state, by applying plenty of water.

Instrument cluster



1 Coolant temperature gauge, see page 75

2 Fuel gauge with reserve and fuel cap placement warning lamp, see page 185

3 Outside temperature indicator, see page 75

4 Push button for activating the instrument cluster, intensity of instrument lamps, for trip odometer, and for Flexible service system (FSS) indicator, see pages 74, 76 and 77

5 Left turn signal indicator lamp, see combination switch on page 83

6 Electronic stability program (ESP) warning lamp, system is adjusting to road conditions, see page 185

7 Right turn signal indicator lamp, see combination switch on page 83

8 Speedometer

9 Trip odometer, see page 76

10 Main odometer, Flexible service system (FSS) indicator, see page 77

11 Push button for setting clock, see page 76

12 Tachometer, see page 76

13 Clock, see page 76

14 Gear range indicator display, see selector lever position, page 150

Notes:

Indicator lamps in the instrument cluster, see page 72

Indicator lamps in the instrument cluster


High beam



ABS malfunction, see page 186



Brake fluid low (except Canada).
Parking brake engaged, see page 183


Brake fluid low (Canada only).
Parking brake engaged, see page 183



BAS malfunction, see page 185
ESP malfunction, see page 185


ESP warning lamp. Adjust driving to road condition, see page 185


Fasten seat belts, see page 184


Fluid level for windshield and headlamp washer system low, see page 187


Coolant level low, see page 187


Engine oil level low, see page 188


Brake pads worn down, see page 184


Battery not being charged properly, see page 188


Exterior lamp failure, see page 189


Telescoping steering column not locked, see page 186



SRS malfunction, see page 184



Engine malfunction indicator lamp. If the “CHECK ENGINE” malfunction indicator lamp comes on when the engine is running, it indicates a malfunction of the fuel management system, emission control system, systems which impact emissions, or the fuel cap is not closed tight. In all cases, we recommend that you have the malfunction checked as soon as possible, see page 182

Function indicator lamp on the center console

AIRBAG OFF — Front passenger airbag automatically switched off, see page 190

Additional function indicator lamps (in the odometer display)

 FSS indicator (distance, Service A), see page 77

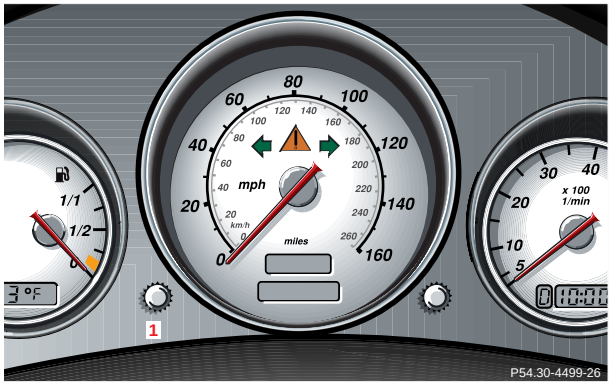
 FSS indicator (distance, Service B), see page 77

 FSS indicator (days, Service A), see page 77

 FSS indicator (days, Service B), see page 77

The symbols appear in the main odometer display field prior to the next suggested service. Depending on operating conditions throughout the year, the next service is calculated and displayed in days or distance remaining. See page 77 for notes on the flexible service system (FSS).

Activating the instrument cluster



The instrument cluster is activated by:

- Opening the door.
- Pressing button (1) on the instrument cluster.
- Turning the key in steering lock to position 2.

Instrument lamps

Rotate adjusting knob (1) to vary intensity of instrument lamps.

Display illumination

Press adjusting knob (1) to briefly illuminate the display (with key removed or in steering lock position 0 or 1).

Coolant temperature gauge

During severe operating conditions and stop-and-go city traffic, the coolant temperature may rise close to the red marking.

The engine should not be operated with the coolant temperature in the red zone. Doing so may cause serious engine damage which is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Warning!

- **Driving when your engine is badly overheated can cause some fluids which may have leaked into the engine compartment to catch fire. You could be seriously burned.**
- **Steam from an overheated engine can cause serious burns and can occur just by opening the engine hood. Stay away from the engine if you see or hear steam coming from it.**

Turn off the engine, get out of the vehicle and do not stand near the vehicle until it cools down.

Outside temperature indicator

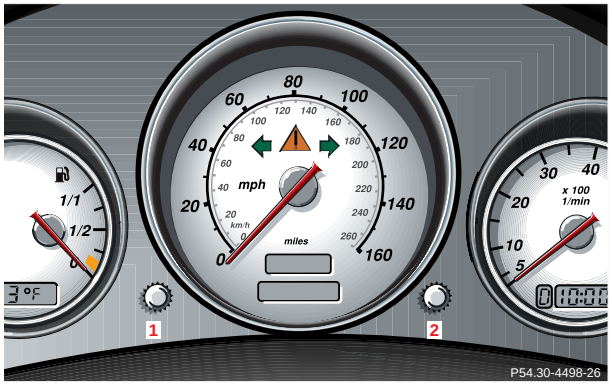
The temperature sensor is located in the front bumper area. Due to its location, the sensor can be affected by road or engine heat during idling or slow driving. This means that the accuracy of the displayed temperature can only be verified by comparison to a thermometer placed next to the sensor, not by comparison to external displays (e.g. bank signs etc.).

Adaptation to ambient temperature takes place in steps and depends on the prevailing driving conditions (stop-and-go or moderate, constant driving) and amount of temperature change.

Warning!

The outside temperature indicator is not designed to serve as an Ice-Warning Device and is therefore unsuitable for that purpose. Indicated temperatures just above the freezing point do not guarantee that the road surface is free of ice.

Trip odometer



To reset:

- Press button (1) once (with key in steering lock position 2).
- Press button (1) twice (with key removed or in steering lock position 0 or 1).

Clock

Adjusting clock:

Hour: Pull out knob (2) and turn it to the left.

Minute: Pull out knob (2) and turn it to the right.

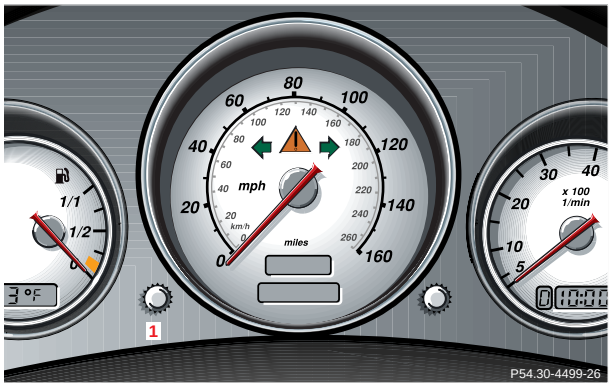
Tachometer

The red marking on tachometer denotes excessive engine speed.

Avoid this engine speed, as it may result in serious engine damage that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

To help protect the engine, the fuel supply is interrupted if the engine is operated within the red marking.

Flexible service system (FSS) (service indicator)



The FSS permits a flexible service schedule that is directly related to the operating conditions of the vehicle.

The symbol or appears in the main odometer display field prior to the next suggested service.

Depending on operating conditions throughout the year, the next service is calculated and displayed in days or distance remaining.

The symbols or indicate the type of service to be performed:

Service A

Service B

The message is displayed for approximately 10 seconds when turning the key in steering lock to position 2, or while driving when reaching the service warning threshold. It can be canceled manually by pressing button (1).

Once the suggested term has passed, the message plus symbol or preceded by a – (minus symbol) blinks for approximately 30 seconds and a signal sounds every time when turning the key in steering lock to position 2.

The FSS display can also be called up for approximately 10 seconds with display illuminated by pressing button (1) twice within 1 second.

Following a completed A or B service the Mercedes-Benz Center sets the counter to 10 000 miles (Canada: 15 000 km).

The counter can also be set by any individual. To do so:

1. Turn key in steering lock to position 2.
2. Within 1 second press button (1) twice.
3. The present status for days or distance is displayed. Within 10 seconds turn key in steering lock to position 0.
4. Press and hold button (1), while turning key in steering lock to position 2 again. The present status for days or distance is displayed once more. Continue to hold button (1).

 After approximately 10 seconds a signal sounds, and the display shows 10 000 miles (Canada: 15 000 km) for approximately 10 seconds.
5. Release button (1).

If the FSS counter was inadvertently reset, have a Mercedes-Benz Center correct it.

Note:

When disconnecting vehicle battery for one or more days at a time, such days will not be counted. Any such days not counted by FSS can be added by your Mercedes-Benz Center.

The interval between services is determined by the kind of vehicle operation. Driving at extreme speeds, and cold starts combined with short distance driving in which the engine does not reach normal operating temperature, reduce the interval between services.

However you choose to set your reference numbers, the scheduled services as posted in the Service Booklet must be followed to properly care for your vehicle.

Checking engine oil level
(SLK 320 and SLK 32 AMG only)



To check the engine oil level, park vehicle on level ground, with engine at normal operational temperature.

Check oil level approximately 5 minutes after turning off the engine, allowing for the oil to return to the oil pan.

Turn electronic key in steering lock to position 2 and wait until the symbols and appear in the odometer display field.

Within 1 second press left button on the instrument cluster twice.

The following messages are available:

“OK”

“-1.0 Q” (Canada: -1.0 L)

“-1.5 Q” (Canada: -1.5 L)

“-2.0 Q” (Canada: -2.0 L)

If the message “-2.0 Q” (Canada: -2.0 L) blinks and a signal sounds, add oil according to amount displayed.

See page 197 for instructions on adding engine oil.

“HI”

The message “HI” blinks and a signal sounds.

Do not overfill the engine.

Excessive oil must be drained or siphoned. It could cause damage to engine and catalytic converter not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

The symbol flashes in the odometer display field if a proper oil level check cannot be performed.

The oil level check can be repeated after a short time.

Perform the oil level check with the dipstick, if it cannot be completed via the odometer display field. In this case we recommend that you have the system checked at a Mercedes-Benz Center.

Notes:

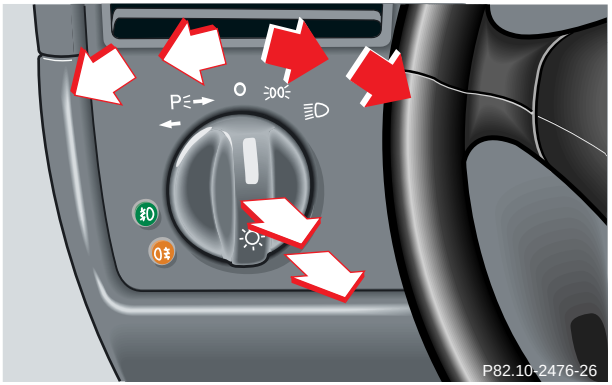
If the symbols and are continuously illuminated after pressing left button on the instrument cluster twice and there is no change in the odometer display field or the low engine oil level warning lamp comes on, a malfunction has occurred to the system. Perform the engine oil level check with the dipstick.

If no oil leaks are noted continue to drive to the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center to have the system checked.

Engine oil consumption

Engine oil consumption checks should only be made after the break-in period. During the break-in period, higher oil consumption may be noticed and is normal. Frequent driving at high engine speeds results in increased consumption.

Exterior lamp switch



Off

Parking lamps (also side marker lamps, taillamps, license plate lamps, instrument panel lamps)

Canada only: When the engine is running, the low beam is additionally switched on.

Parking lamps plus low beam or high beam headlamps (combination switch pushed forward).

Standing lamps, right (turn left one stop)

Standing lamps, left (turn left two stops)

Front fog lamps (pull out one stop) with parking lamps and/or low beam headlamps on. Green indicator in lamp switch comes on.

Rear fog lamp (pull out to second detent) in addition to the front fog lamps. Yellow indicator in lamp switch comes on.

Standing lamps

When the vehicle is parked on the street the standing lamps (right or left side parking lamps) can be turned on, making the vehicle more visible to passing vehicles. The standing lamps cannot be operated with the key in steering lock position 2.

Notes:

With the key removed and a door open, a warning sounds if the vehicle's exterior lamps (except standing lamps) are not switched off.

Fog lamps will operate with the parking lamps and/or the low beam headlamps on. Fog lamps should only be used in conjunction with low beam headlamps. Consult your State or Province Motor Vehicle Regulations regarding allowable lamp operation.

Fog lamps are automatically switched off when the exterior lamp switch is turned to position ○.

Daytime running lamps (Canada only)

Vehicles with automatic transmission:

When the engine is running and the selector lever is in a driving position, the low beam headlamps (includes parking lamps, side marker lamps, taillamps and license plate lamps) are automatically switched on.

When shifting from a driving position to position “N” or “P”, the low beam switches off (2 seconds delay).

Vehicles with manual transmission:

With the engine running, the low beam headlamps (includes parking lamps, side marker lamps, taillamps and license plate lamps) are automatically switched on.

For nighttime driving the exterior lamp switch should be turned to position ≡D to permit activation of the high beam headlamps.

Headlamp cleaning system

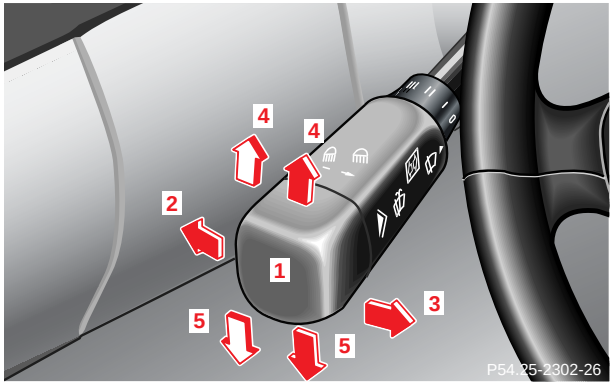

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The switch is located in the center console.

The headlamp washer can be activated with the key in steering lock position 2.

Briefly press symbol side of switch.

Combination switch



1 Low beam (exterior lamp switch position)

2 High beam (exterior lamp switch position)

3 High beam flasher (high beam available independent of exterior lamp switch position)

4 Turn signals, right

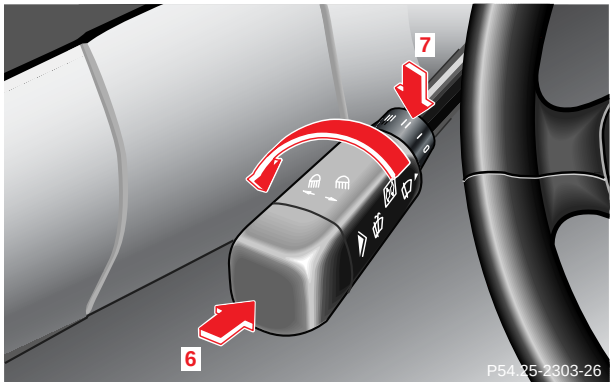
5 Turn signals, left

To signal minor directional changes, such as changing lanes on a highway, move combination switch to the point of resistance only and hold it there.

To operate the turn signals continuously, move the combination switch past the point of resistance (up or down). The switch is automatically canceled when the steering wheel is turned to a large enough degree.

Turn signal failure

If one of the turn signal lamps fails, the turn signal indicator system flashes and sounds at a faster than normal rate.



6 Control for windshield wiper/washer system:

Push briefly for single wipe without adding washer fluid (use only when windshield is wet).

Push past detent and hold to activate wiper and washer.

7 Windshield wiper

0 Wiper off

I Intermittent wiping

II Normal wiper speed

III Fast wiper speed

Note:

The windshield washer reservoir, hoses and nozzles are automatically heated.

For windshield and headlamp washer fluid mixing ratio see page 199.

Windshield wipers smear

If the windshield wipers smear the windshield, even during rain, activate the washer system as often as necessary. The fluid in the washer reservoir should be mixed in the correct ratio.

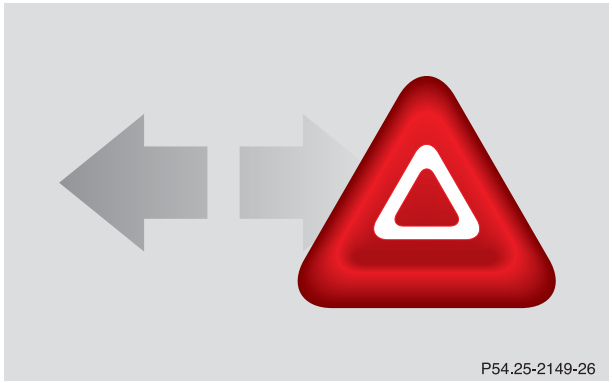
Blocked windshield wipers

If the windshield wipers become blocked (for example, due to snow), switch off the wipers.

For safety reasons before removing ice or snow, remove key from steering lock. Remove blockage.

Activate combination switch again (key in steering lock position 1).

Hazard warning flasher switch



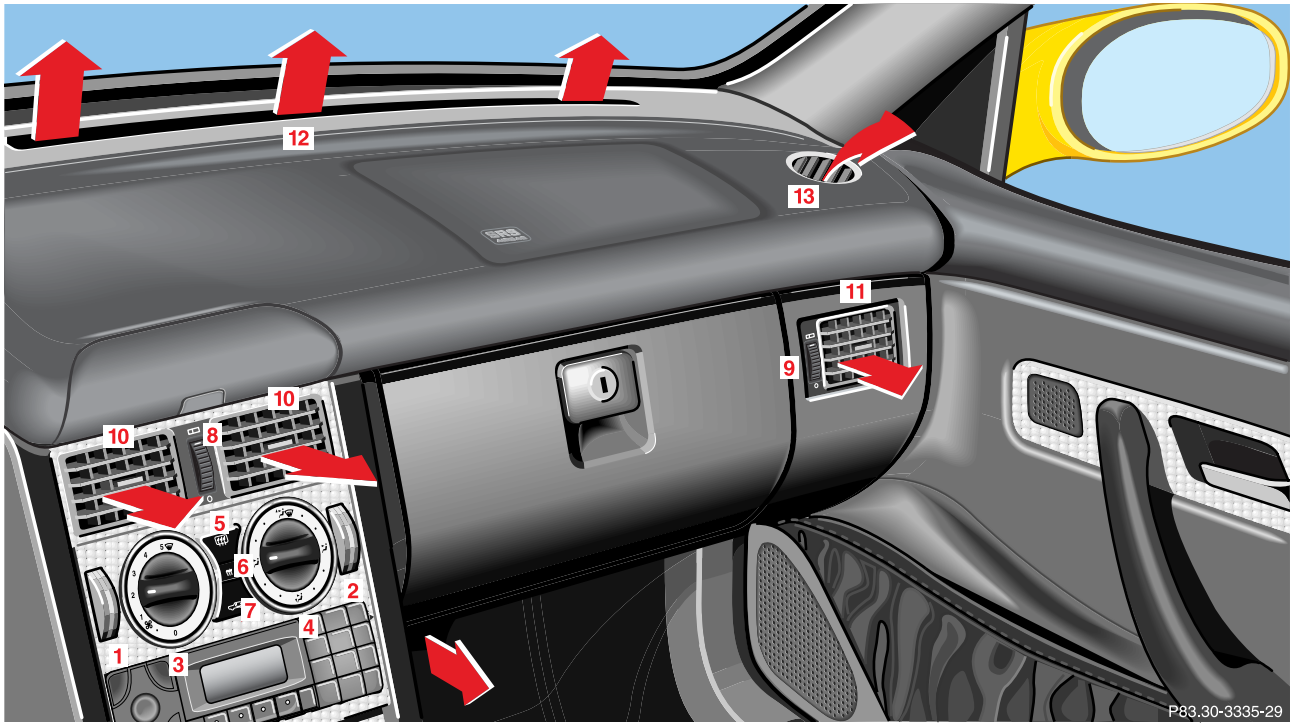
The hazard warning flasher can be activated manually via the switch located in the dashboard.

To activate hazard warning flasher, press switch once. To deactivate, press switch again.

Note:

With the hazard warning flasher activated, the combination switch in position for either left or right turn, and the key in steering lock position 2, only the respective left or right side turn signals will operate.

Climate control



1 Temperature selector, left side passenger compartment

2 Temperature selector, right side passenger compartment

3 Air volume control switch

4 Air distribution control switch

5 Rear window defroster

6 Economy mode

7 Air recirculation, Residual engine heat utilization

8 Air volume control for center air outlets, turn wheel up to open.

9 Air volume control for side air outlet and side window defroster outlet, turn wheel up to open.

10 Center air outlets, adjustable

11 Side air outlet, adjustable

12 Windshield air outlet

13 Side window defroster outlet, adjustable

The system is always at operational readiness, except when manually switched off.

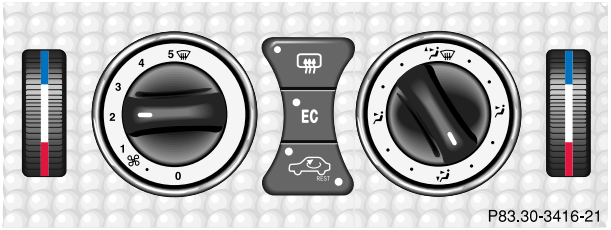
The climate control only operates with the engine running.

The temperature selector should be left at the desired temperature setting. The temperature selected is reached as quickly as possible.

The system will not heat or cool any quicker by setting a higher or lower temperature.

The climate control removes considerable moisture from the air during operation in the cooling mode. It is normal for water to drip on the ground through ducts in the underbody.

Basic setting – heater



Select temperature for each side of the passenger compartment.

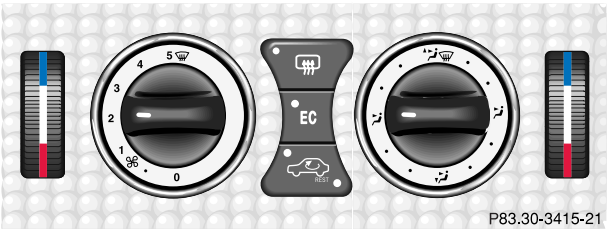
Select air volume with control switch, set at least to position 2 to prevent windows from fogging up.

Set air distribution control switch to position shown above.

Turn defroster outlets for side windows to the detent position.

Open center air outlets as desired.

Basic setting – air conditioner



Select temperature for each side of the passenger compartment.

Select air volume with control switch, at least to position 1 to start the air conditioner.

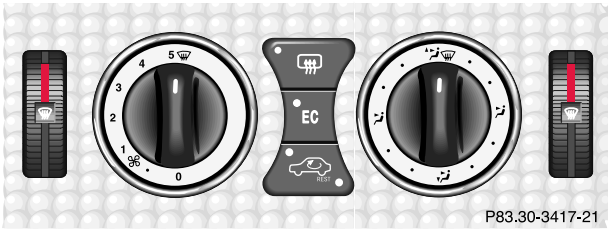
Set air distribution control switch to position .

Open center air outlets .

Open left and right side air outlets .

Special settings (use only for short duration)

Defrosting



Set temperature selectors and switches for air volume and air distribution to position .

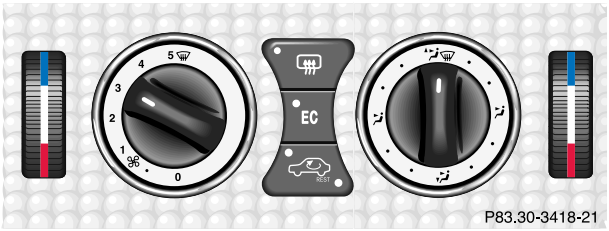
Close center air outlets.

Close left and right side air outlets.

Turn defroster outlets for side windows to the detent position.

Defogging windows

Windows fogged up on inside.



Switch off economy mode EC. Indicator lamp goes out.

Switch off air recirculation . Indicator lamp goes out.

Set air distribution control switch to position .

Increase air volume with control switch.

Close center and right side air outlets .

Turn defroster outlets for side windows to the detent position.

Windshield fogged up on outside.

Switch on windshield wipers.

Set air distribution control switch to position  or .

Economy

The function of this setting corresponds to the air conditioning mode. However, because the air conditioning compressor will not engage (fuel savings), it is not possible to air condition in this setting.

Press  button to activate.

Press button once again to return to previous setting.

Climate control - OFF

To switch the climate control off, set air volume control switch to position **0**.

The fresh air supply to the vehicle interior is shut off.

While driving, use this setting only temporarily, otherwise the windshield could fog up.

Rear window defroster

Turn key in steering lock to position 2.

To select, press  button.

To cancel, press  button again.

Note:

Heavy accumulation of snow and ice should be removed before activating the defroster.

The rear window defroster uses a large amount of power. To keep the battery drain to a minimum, turn off the defroster as soon as the window is clear.

The defroster is automatically turned off after a maximum of 12 minutes of operation.

If several power consumers are turned on simultaneously, or the battery is only partially charged, it is possible that the defroster will automatically turn itself off. When this happens, the indicator lamp inside the switch starts blinking.

As soon as the battery has sufficient voltage, the defroster automatically turns itself back on.

Air recirculation

This mode can be selected to temporarily reduce the entry of annoying odors or dust into the vehicle's interior.

Outside air is not supplied to the vehicle's interior.

To select, press button.

To cancel, press button again.

The system will automatically switch from recirculated air to fresh air

- after approximately 5 minutes at outside temperatures below approximately 40°F (5°C),
- after approximately 30 minutes, at outside temperatures above approximately 40°F (5°C),
- after approximately 5 minutes, if button EC is pressed.

At high outside temperatures, the system automatically engages the recirculated air mode for approximately 30 minutes, thereby increasing the cooling capacity performance. Press button again to extend the recirculated air mode.

Residual engine heat utilization (REST)

With the engine switched off, it is possible to continue heating the interior for a short while.

Air volume is controlled automatically. Select temperature for each side of the passenger compartment. Set air distribution control switch to the desired position.

To select:

Turn key in steering lock to position 1 or 0 or remove.

Press button. Indicator lamp in the button lights up.

This function selection will not activate if the battery charge level is insufficient.

To cancel:

Press button. Indicator lamp in the button goes out.

The system will automatically shut off

- if you turn key in steering lock to position 2,
- after approximately 30 minutes,
- if the battery voltage drops.

Dust Filter

Nearly all dust particles and pollen are filtered out before outside air enters the passenger compartment through the air distribution system.

Note:

Keep the air intake grille in front of windshield free of snow and debris.

Important!

This vehicle is equipped with an air conditioner system that uses R-134a (HFC: hydrofluorocarbon) as a refrigerant. Repairs should always be performed by a qualified technician, and refrigerant should be collected in a recovery system for recycling.

Audio and telephone, operation

These instructions are intended to help you become acquainted with your Mercedes- Benz car radio. They contain useful tips and a detailed description of the user functions.

Warning!

In order to avoid distraction which could lead to an accident, system settings should be entered with the vehicle at standstill and systems should be operated by the driver only when traffic conditions permit. Always pay full attention to traffic conditions first before operating system controls while driving.

Bear in mind that at a speed of just 30 mph (approximately 50 km/h), your car is covering a distance of approximately 50 feet (approximately 14 m) every second.

The right to correct errors and make technical amendments is reserved.

Operating safety

Warning!

Any alternations made to electronic components can cause malfunctions

The radio, cassette deck, CD changer [1] and telephone [1] are interconnected. Therefore, when one of the components is defective or has not been removed/replaced properly this may impair the function of other components.

These malfunctions might seriously impair the operating safety of your vehicle.

We recommend that you have any service work or alternations on electronic components done in an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

1 Optional equipment

Dolby and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation. The Dolby noise reduction system is manufactured under licence from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

Operating and display elements



1 On/off, volume, see page 97

2 Telephone mode selector, see page 108

3 Seek, see page 99, 102 and 106

4 Radio mode selector, see page 99

5 Tune, see page 99 and 100
Fast forward/reverse, see page 103 and 106

6 CD mode selector, see page 105

7 Display panel, see page 101

8 Alpha-numeric keypad for
station storage and frequency entry, see page 100
CD/Track access, see page 105 and 107
optional telephone, see page 108

9 Function button, see page 100 and 107

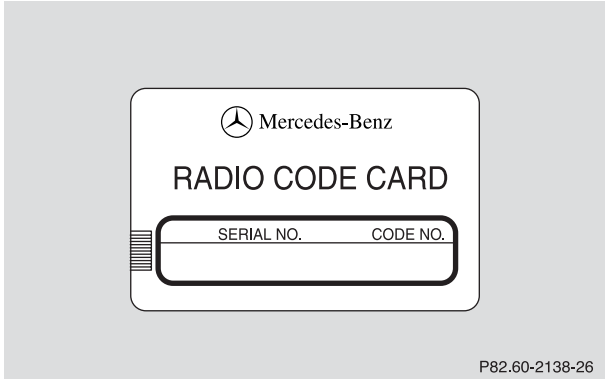
10 Soft keys for
radio band selection, see page 99
tone controls, see page 97
scan, see page 100
Tape eject, see page 102
Tape track select, see page 102
Dolby, see page 103
CD random/repeat, see page 107

11 Tape mode selector, see page 101

Anti-theft system



If the power supply to the radio has been interrupted,“CODE” will appear on the display when it is next switched on. The radio will only work after the five-digit code has been entered using the buttons on the right-hand control panel.



The code number is shown on the Radio code card, supplied with the radio.

Important!

Never leave the Radio code card in the vehicle. Keep it in a safe place.

Entering the code number

Switch on the radio.“CODE” will appear on the display. Using the buttons on the alpha-numeric keypad, enter the five digit code. Confirm by pressing the “OK” key.

If an incorrect code has been entered and confirmed, “CODE” will reappear on the display. The correct code must be entered once again.



If an incorrect code is entered three times, “WAIT” will appear on the display and the radio will be locked out for about 10 minutes.

Note:

The lock out time will only count down if the radio is left switched on.

Button and soft key operation

In these instructions, the alpha-numeric keypad (right side of radio face) and the function buttons (left side of the radio face) are referred to as “buttons” and the four keys under the display are referred to as “soft keys”.

Note:

Do not press directly on the radio display face.

Operation

Switching on and off

Press the control knob .

The radio is switched off when the ignition key is turned to position 0 or removed from the ignition. The radio is switched on again when the ignition key is turned to position 1 or 2.

Note:

The radio can also be switched on even if the ignition key is not inserted, but will switch itself off automatically after one hour to conserve vehicle battery power.

Adjusting the volume

Turn the control knob - turning the knob clockwise will increase the volume, counterclockwise will decrease the volume.

Audio functions

The AUD key is used to select the BASS, TREBLE and BALANCE functions. Settings for bass and treble are stored separately for the cassette and CD modes. Tone level settings are identified by the vertical bars. The center (flat) setting is shown by one longer bar in the center of the display.

Bass



Press the AUD key repeatedly until “BASS” appears in the display.

Treble



Press the AUD key repeatedly until “TREBLE” appears in the display.

Press the “+” key to increase or the “-” key to decrease the level.

Balance



Press the AUD key repeatedly until “BALANCE” appears in the display.

Press the “L” key to move the sound to the left speaker or the “R” key to move the sound to the right speaker.

Centering all audio functions



Push and hold down the “AUD” key. All audio functions (bass, treble and balance) are set to center or flat positions, and the volume is adjusted to a pre-set level.

Radio mode

Selecting radio mode

Press RADIO button.

Selecting the band



Press the key located below the desired band. The band selected is shown in the top line of the display.



Frequency ranges:	FM	87.9 - 107.9 MHz
	AM	530 - 1710 kHz
	WB	approx. 162 MHz

Manual tuning



Press either the △ or ▽ button. Step-by-step tuning in ascending or descending order of frequency will take place.

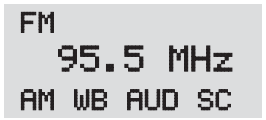
The first three tuning steps will take place without muting. The radio will then be muted and high-speed tuning will take place until the button is released. The following tuning intervals will be shown on the display:

FM	200 kHz
AM	10 kHz
WB	Channels 1-7

Seek tuning

Press either the ▷| or |◁ button. The radio will tune to the next receivable station.

Scan tuning



Press the SC key. Each strong receivable station on the band selected will be tuned in for 8 seconds. The first scan will tune only the stations with a high signal strength. The second scan will tune every receivable station. By pressing either the △, ▽, ▷| or |◁ buttons, or the “SC” key the scan mode can be cancelled.

Station memory



Ten stations can be stored in the AM and FM bands via the alpha-numeric keypad. The “0” button corresponds to location 10. Weatherband (WB) channels 1 to 7 can be retrieved via the alpha-numeric keypad and are preset at the factory.

Storing stations

Hold the number button down for approximately 2 seconds. The currently displayed frequency is stored on the selected station button. The storage procedure is confirmed by a short signal tone.

Retrieving a station from memory

Press the desired station button.

Direct frequency input (AM and FM only)



Select the band. Press the * button and enter the desired frequency using the alpha-numeric keypad. Frequencies outside of the frequency ranges (frequencies specified on page 99) will not be accepted. The frequency input mode is cancelled if no button is pressed within 4 seconds.

Cassette mode

Playing cassettes

Press the “TAPE” button. When the eject (EJ) key is pressed, the display folds down and the cassette slot becomes visible. Push the cassette into the slot until it engages. The cassette will be pulled in automatically.

Notes:

Do not press directly on the radio display face.

Return the display panel to its normal position by folding it back up and pressing gently on the display frame to lock in place.

When playing mono recorded tapes (e.g. books) through a stereo system the sound from one track might bleed to the other track, despite setting the balance to the full left or full right speakers.

Important:

If the display is in the down position for more than 20 seconds, 2 successive beeps will be heard. This will continue at 5 second intervals until the display is returned to its normal position.



The radio will switch to cassette mode. Track 1 will be played and “SIDE 1” displayed. Track 1 is the side of the cassette which is facing upwards. The cassette deck will automatically detect the type of tape and switch the equalization automatically. A cassette symbol in the display indicates that a tape is in the mechanism. This symbol appears in all modes but not in cassette mode.

The cassette will not be ejected when the radio is switched off or another mode is selected.



If a cassette is in the mechanism, cassette mode can be selected by using the “TAPE” button. If no cassette has been inserted, the display will show “NO TAPE”.

Cassette eject

Press the eject (EJ) key. The display will fold down and the cassette will be ejected. Remove the cassette, then fold the display back up manually. The radio will switch back to radio mode automatically.

Note:

The cassette will not be ejected when the radio is switched off.

Important!

If the display is in the down position for more than 20 seconds, 2 successive beeps will be heard. This will continue at 5 second intervals until the display is returned to its normal position.

Track selection



Press the track selection (TRK) key. The current track will be displayed as “SIDE 1” or “SIDE 2”. The track will be changed automatically at the end of the tape.

Track search forwards/backwards



Press the ▷| button. “SEEK FWD” will be shown on the display and the track search will run the tape forwards to the start of the next track.



Press the |◁ button. “SEEK RWD” will be shown on the display and the track search will run the tape backwards to the start of the track currently playing. Track search can be interrupted by pressing the same button again.

Note:

The beginning of a track can only be located if there is a break of at least 4 seconds between tracks.

Fast forward/reverse



Press the ▽ button. “FORWARD” will appear on the display and fast forward will start.



Press the △ button. “REWIND” will appear on the display and fast reverse will start.

Fast forward/reverse is stopped by pressing the same button again, or it will stop automatically at the beginning or the end of the tape. The track will automatically change at the end or beginning of the tape and play will begin.

Scanning



Press the “SC” key. Each track on the cassette will be played for 8 seconds in ascending order.

Note:

The beginning of a track can only be located if there is a break of at least 4 seconds between tracks.

Scan will be interrupted if the ▽, ▷|, |◁ buttons or the “SC” key is pressed.

Dolby NR [1] (noise reduction system)



To enable optimum reproduction of cassettes recorded using the Dolby B system, press the “AUD” key followed by the NR key so the “NR” in the display is not highlighted. To turn off Dolby B noise reduction, press the “NR” key so the “NR” in the display is highlighted.

1 Dolby and the double-D symbol ⧈ are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation. The Dolby noise reduction system is manufactured under licence from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

CD mode

General notes on CD mode

Should excessive temperatures occur while in CD mode, “TEMP HIGH” will appear in the display and muting will take place. The unit will then switch back to radio mode until the temperature has decreased to a safe operating level.

Should temperatures occur while in CD mode which are too low, “TEMP LOW” will be displayed, but the CD will play. It will be sensitive to skipping if you are driving over rough roads.

Handle CDs carefully to prevent interference during playback.

Avoid fingerprints and dust on CDs. Do not write on the CDs or apply any label to the CDs.

Clean CDs from time to time with a commercially available cleaning cloth. No solvents, anti-static sprays, etc. should be used.

Replace the CD in its container after use. Protect CDs from heat and direct sunlight.



Only use CDs, which bear the label shown and that conform to the compact disc digital audio standard (IEC 60908).

Use of CDs which do not meet this standard may cause damage to the CD changer. Do not play single-CDs (80 mm) with an adapter.

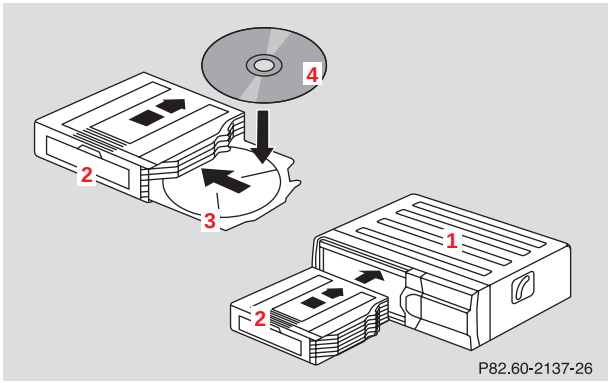
Warning!

The CD changer [1] is a Class 1 laser product. There is a danger of invisible laser radiation if the cover is opened or damaged.

Do not remove the cover. The CD changer [1] does not contain any parts which can be serviced by the user. For safety reasons, have any service work which may be necessary performed only by qualified personnel.

1 Optional equipment

CD changer installed



1 CD changer [1]

2 CD magazine

3 CD tray

4 CD

If a CD changer [1] is installed, it can be operated from the front control panel of the radio. A loaded magazine must be installed for CD playing.

1 Optional equipment

Loading/emptying the CD magazine

Slide the changer door to the right and press the eject button ⏏. The magazine will be ejected. Remove the magazine. Pull out the CD tray until its stop is reached and place the CDs in the recess of the tray, label side up. Push the tray into the magazine in the direction shown by the arrow. Insert the loaded magazine into the changer.

Important!

Close the door after the magazine has been inserted.

Playing CDs

Press the CD button. The CD most recently played will start at the point where it was last switched off. CDs stored in the magazine can be selected by using the station preset buttons 1-6.



The magazine slot number of the selected CD will then be displayed after “CD”. The number of the track being played will be displayed after “TRACK”.



If there is no CD in the selected magazine slot, “NO CD” and the corresponding slot number will be displayed (e.g.“NO CD3”). After the last track on a CD has been played, the next CD will automatically be selected and played.

Skipping tracks forwards/backwards

Press the ▷| button. The next track on the CD will be played.

Press the |◁ button. If the track has been playing for more than 10 seconds, it will revert to the start of that track. If it has been playing for less than ten seconds it will revert to the preceding track. To skip several tracks, the respective button must be pressed until the desired track is reached. If the beginning or end of the CD is reached during the search, the first or last track will be played.

Fast forward/reverse

Press the △ button and hold it down for audible fast forward.

Press the ▽ button and hold it down for audible reverse.



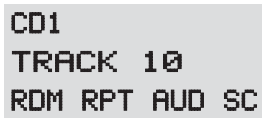
The search will stop when the button is released. The relative time of the track will be displayed during the search. The search mode will cancel if the beginning or end of the CD is reached.

Scanning

Press the SC key. Each track will be played for 8 seconds in ascending order. The search will stop at the track in question if the △, ▽, ▷|, |◁ buttons or the “SC” key is pressed.

Random play/repeat function

The tracks of the current CD are played in random order when the random feature (RDM) is selected. Press the RDM key to switch on, and press RDM again to switch off.



When the repeat function (RPT) has been selected, a particular track can be played for as many times as desired. Press the RPT key to switch on, and press RPT again to switch off.

Note:

Both functions cannot be used simultaneously.

Direct track selection

Tracks can be selected directly using the buttons on the alpha-numeric keypad. Press the * function button, followed by the track number.

Telephone operation

Various functions of the Mercedes-Benz integrated cellular telephone [1] can be performed and displayed via the car radio. Further instructions for operating the car telephone can be found in the operation guide for the cellular telephone [1].

Switching the telephone on and off



Switching on: Press the TEL button, “TEL” appears in the corner of the display.

Switching off: Press and hold the TEL button until the telephone symbol “TEL” no longer appears in the display, or press the “PWR” button on the phone’s keypad.

1 Optional equipment

Entering telephone number and starting dialing process



Enter the desired telephone number using the alpha-numeric keypad. The number can have up to 32 digits, but only 13 of these can be displayed. The dialing process is started by pressing the SND button. The entered number can be corrected using the “CLR” key.



Press the CLR key briefly - and the last digit will be deleted.

Press the CLR key longer - and the complete number will be deleted.

Calling up the phone book

The numbers stored in the telephone memory can be called up via either name or number entries. The memory contents from the portable phone must be downloaded and the telephone menu must be selected in order to call up the phone book. Refer to the “Memory download” section of the cellular telephone operation guide for more information.

Switching between name search and number search

Press ABC key - Name search

Press NUM key - Number search

Searching and selecting phone book entries by name

Press the ABC key. The current name is shown on the display. The stored entries in alphabetical order can be selected using the △ or ▽ button. By pressing the ▷| or |◁ buttons, the stored entries can be selected according to alphabetical initial letters (e.g. A-Adam, B-Brown, M-Miller).

Searching and selecting phone book entries by number

Press the NUM key. The current number is shown on the display. The stored entries can be selected in numerical order using the △ or ▽ button. By pressing the ▷| or |◁ buttons, the stored entries can be selected in increments of 5 (e.g. Entry no. 2, Entry no. 7, etc.).

Placing a call



When a number or a name has been selected using the method described above, press the SND key.

Manual repeat dialing (redial)

The last number entered can be re-selected by pressing the SND key once and the call can be placed by pressing the SND key a second time. The last dialed telephone number is shown on the display. Using the △, ▽, ▷| or |◁ button, the numbers stored in the re-dial memory of the telephone can be selected.



The abbreviation L and the number in the memory are shown in the top line of the display.

Accepting incoming call in telephone mode

With an incoming call, the ringing tone will be heard and the message “CALL” appears in the display. Press the SND key to answer the call.

Accepting incoming call in tape, CD or radio mode

If the telephone is activated in the background (telephone symbol in the display), then a switch is made automatically to telephone when an incoming call is received. The audio source is muted, the ringing tone is heard and the message “CALL” appears. After the call has been terminated, the previously selected audio source is resumed.

Terminating call

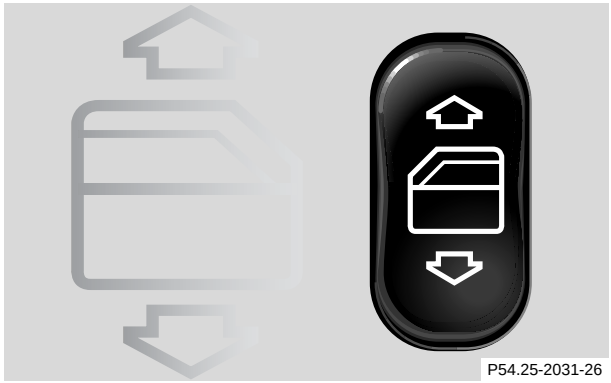
A current call can be terminated by pressing the END key.

Component malfunctions

The radio, CD changer [1], and Mercedes-Benz integrated cellular telephone [1] are part of a fiberoptic networked system. Failure of one of the components can lead to malfunctions of the other components. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center or call 1-800-FOR-MERCedes for more information in the event of a malfunction.

1 Optional equipment

Power windows



Power window switches located on center console

Turn key in steering lock to position 1 or 2.

Press switch in to resistance point:

▽ to open

△ to close

Release switch when window is in desired position.

Express opening of door windows

Press switch ▽ past resistance point and release – window lowers to fully open position. To interrupt procedure, briefly press △ or ▽.

Warning!

When closing the windows, be sure that there is no danger of anyone being harmed by the closing procedure.

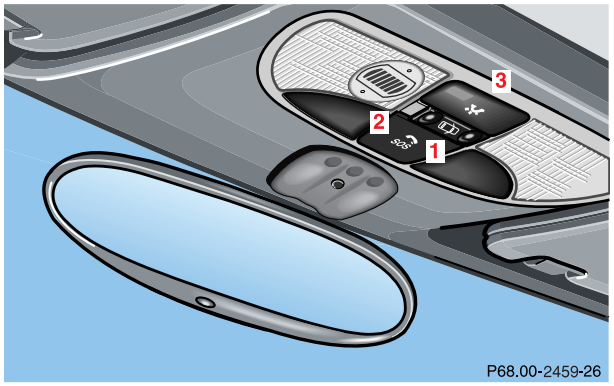
The closing procedures can be immediately reversed by either pressing the switch ▽, turning the key to the unlocking position, or pressing button 🔓 on the remote control, and holding it.

When leaving the vehicle, always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock the vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment can cause serious personal injury.

Note:

The power windows can also be operated with the hardtop switch. To do so, push hardtop switch twice and hold, see page 123.

Interior lighting



1 Automatic interior lighting.

Interior lamp is switched on, and off (soft fade) delayed, when unlocking or locking the vehicle, or when opening or closing a door. However, there will be no (soft fade) delay when the key is in steering lock position 2.

2 Door contact off.

Interior lamps remain switched off, even when opening a door.

3 Interior lamp on.

Notes:

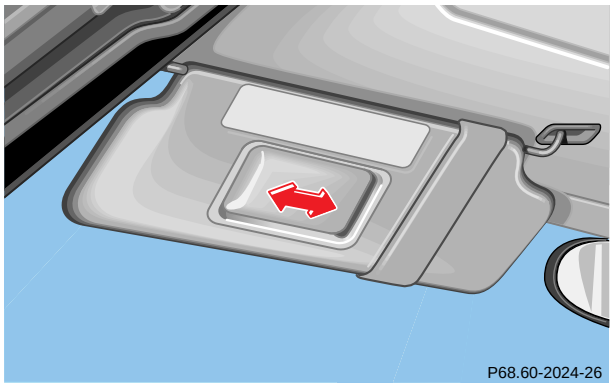
If a door remains open and the switch in position 1, the interior lamp switches off after approximately 5 minutes.

The trunk lamp is switched on and off with the interior lamp.

Night security illumination

When exiting the vehicle after driving with the exterior lamps on, they switch on again for added security for approximately 30 seconds after closing the last door. The lamp-on time period can be changed at your Mercedes-Benz Center.

Sun visors with vanity mirror



Swing sun visors down to protect against sun glare.

Warning!

Do not use the driver's vanity mirror while driving.

Interior

Warning

To help avoid personal injury during a collision or sudden maneuver, exercise care when stowing things. Put luggage or cargo in the trunk if possible.

Luggage nets cannot secure hard or heavy objects.

Cup holder and glove box



Cup holder

To open cup holder:

Briefly press button (1). The cup holder opens automatically.

To store cup holder:

Push cup holder against dashboard until it engages.

Caution!

Keep cup holder closed while traveling. Place only containers that fit into the cup holder to prevent spills.

Do not fill containers to a height where the contents could spill during vehicle maneuvers, especially hot liquids.

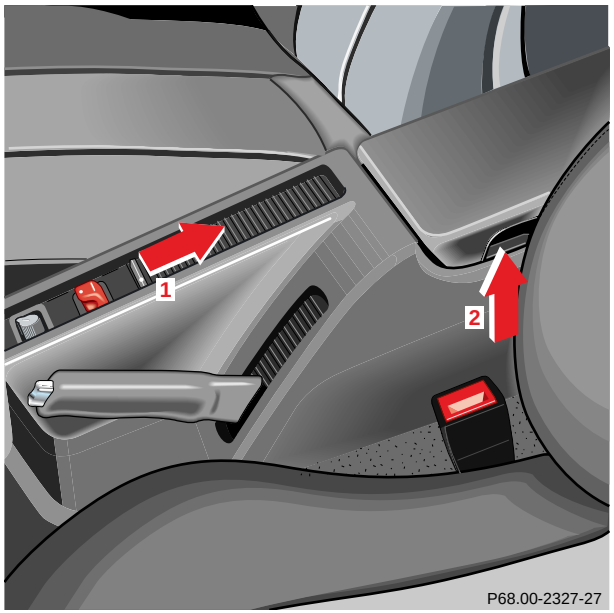
Glove box

2 Locking: Turn key to vertical position and remove.

3 Unlocking: Turn key to left and remove.

4 Opening: Pull on handle.

Storage compartments



Storage compartment in center console

Slide cover (1) to open.

Storage compartment in armrest

To open compartment under armrest:
Lift lid with handle (2).

To close:
Lower lid until it engages in lock.

Notes:

The storage compartment in the armrest is locked with the central locking system.

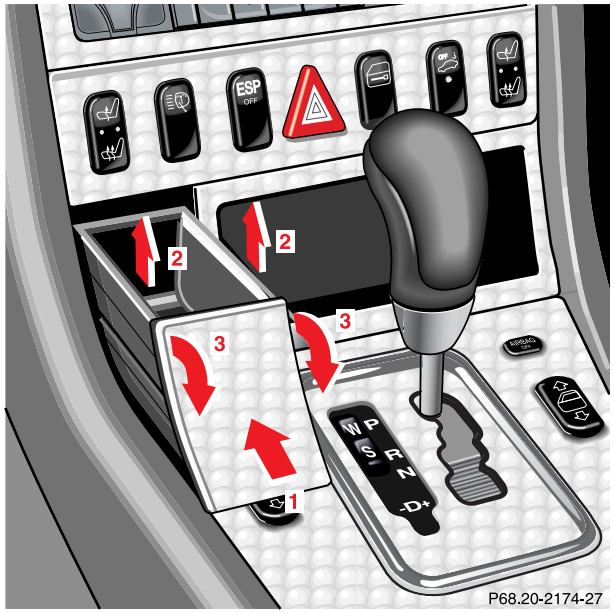
The storage compartment in the armrest cannot be locked with the dashboard-mounted central locking switch.

Additionally, pockets can be found behind the seats and in the door panels.

Warning!

Keep compartment lids closed. This will help to prevent stored objects from being thrown about and injuring vehicle occupants during an accident.

Ashtrays



By touching the bottom of the cover (1) lightly, the ashtray opens automatically.

To remove ashtray insert, pull ashtray past detent. Hold left and right side (2) of insert and pull up.

To install ashtray insert, place it into ashtray frame and push down to engage.

Warning!

Remove front ashtray only with vehicle standing still. With the gear selector lever in position "N" (manual transmission: in Neutral), turn off the engine and set the parking brake. Otherwise the vehicle might move as a result of unintended contact with the gear selector lever.

Coin holder

Open ashtray and fold down (3) cover plate (1).

Lighter



Slide cover (arrow) open. Turn key in steering lock to position 1 or 2.

Push in lighter (1); it will pop out automatically when hot.

Warning!

Never touch the heating element or sides of the lighter, they are extremely hot, hold at knob only.

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment may cause serious personal injury.

Note:

The lighter socket can be used to accommodate electrical accessories up to maximum 85 W.

Parcel net in passenger footwell

A small convenience parcel net is located in the passenger footwell. It is for small and light items, such as road maps, mail, etc..

Warning!

Do not place heavy or fragile objects, or objects having sharp edges, in the parcel net.

In an accident, during hard braking or sudden maneuvers, they could be thrown around inside the vehicle, and cause injury to vehicle occupants.

Shelf behind roll bars

Warning!

The shelf behind the roll bars should not be used to carry objects. This will prevent such objects from being thrown about and injuring vehicle occupants during an accident or sudden maneuver.

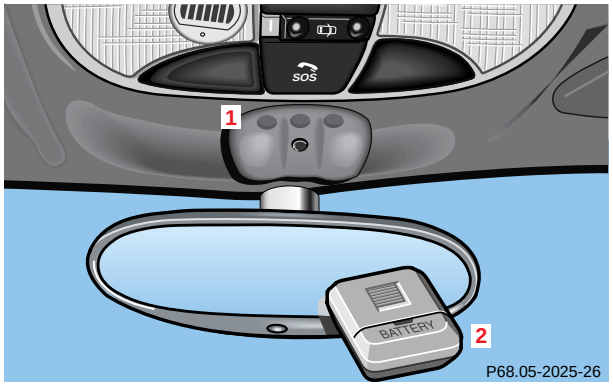
Cellular telephone

The vehicle is prepared for the installation of a cellular telephone. For further information and installation contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Warning!

Some jurisdictions prohibit the driver from using a cellular telephone while driving a vehicle. Whether or not prohibited by law, for safety reasons, the driver should not use the cellular telephone while the vehicle is in motion. Stop the vehicle in a safe location before answering or placing a call.

Garage door opener



1 Integrated remote control transmitter

2 Hand-held remote control transmitter

Warning!

When programming a garage door opener, the door moves up or down.

When programming or operating the remote control make sure there is no possibility of anyone being harmed by the moving door.

The built-in remote control is capable of operating up to three separately controlled objects.

Notes:

Certain types of garage door openers are incompatible with the integrated opener. If you should experience difficulties with programming the transmitter, contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center or call Mercedes-Benz Client Assistance Center (in the USA only) at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes, or Customer Service (in Canada) at 1-800-387-0100.

For operation in the USA only: This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and

(2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Any unauthorized modification to this device could void to the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Programming or reprogramming the integrated remote control:

1. Turn key in starter switch to position 1 or 2.
2. Hold the end of the hand-held transmitter of the device you wish to train approximately 2 to 5 inches (5 cm to 12 cm) away from the surface of the integrated remote control located on the inside rear view mirror, keeping the indicator lamp in view.
3. Using both hands, simultaneously push the hand-held transmitter button and the desired integrated remote control button. Do not release the buttons until completing step 4.
4. The indicator lamp on the integrated remote control will flash, first slowly and then rapidly. When the indicator lamp flashes rapidly, both buttons may be released (the rapid flashing lamp indicates successful programming of the new frequency signal). To program the remaining two buttons, follow steps 1 through 4.

Note:

If, after repeated attempts, you do not successfully program the integrated remote control device to learn the signal of the hand-held transmitter, the garage door opener could be equipped with the “rolling code feature”.

Rolling code programming:

To train a garage door opener (or other rolling code devices) with the rolling code feature, follow these instructions after completing the “Programming” portion of this text. (A second person may make the following training procedures quicker and easier.)

1. Locate training button on the garage door opener motor head unit. Exact location and color of the button may vary by garage door opener brand. If there is difficulty locating the transmitting button, reference to garage door opener operator’s manual.
2. Press “training” button on the garage door opener motor head unit (which activates the “training light”).

Note:

Following step 2, there are 30 seconds to initiate step 3.

3. Firmly press and release the programmed integrated remote control transmit button. Press and release same button a second time to complete the training process. (Some garage door openers may require you to do this procedure a third time to complete the training.)
4. Confirm the garage door operation by pressing the programmed button on the integrated remote control transmitter.

Canadian programming:

During programming, your hand-held transmitter may automatically stop transmitting. Continue to press and hold the integrated remote control transmitter button (note steps 2 through 4 in the “Programming” portion) while you press and re-press (“cycle”) your hand-held transmitter every two seconds until the frequency signal has been learned. The indicator lamp will flash slowly and then rapidly after several seconds upon successful training.

Operation of remote control:

1. Turn key in starter switch to position 1 or 2.
2. Select and press the appropriate button to activate the remote controlled device. The integrated remote control transmitter continues to send the signal as long as the button is pressed – up to 20 seconds.

Erasing the remote control memory:

1. Turn key in starter switch to position 1 or 2.
2. Simultaneously holding down the left and right side buttons for approximately 20 seconds, or until the control lamp blinks rapidly, will erase the codes of all three channels.

Retractable hardtop

Important!

A minimum clearance height of $5^{1}/_{2}$ ft. (1.65 m) and an additional 10 in (25 cm) length behind the vehicle is required to lower or raise the hardtop.

The additional space is required since the roof moves up and the trunk lid back during raising and lowering operations.

The raising or lowering operations can only be started with the luggage cover and trunk lid closed.

The raising or lowering procedure is immediately interrupted by releasing the hardtop switch.

Do not operate the roof while a roof luggage carrier is installed.

To prevent damage to hardtop or luggage/cargo when lowering the roof:

- load trunk only to the height of the luggage cover,
- do not permit luggage/cargo to raise the closed luggage cover,
- do not load anything on top of the luggage cover,
- do not place anything on shelf behind roll bars.

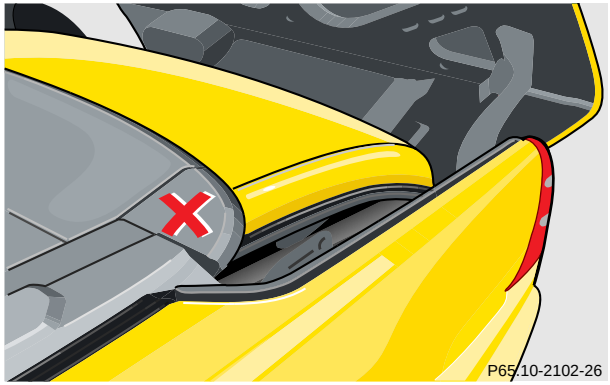
Note:

To prevent the hardtop from being lowered unintentionally while a roof luggage carrier is installed, keep luggage cover in trunk in the open position.

Warning!

Before operating the switch for the retractable hardtop make sure that no persons due to inattention are injured by the moving parts (retractable roof, roof frame, and trunk lid).

Hands must never be placed near the roof frame, upper windshield area, hardtop, shelf behind roll bars, or trunk lid while the retractable hardtop is being raised or lowered. Serious personal injury may occur.

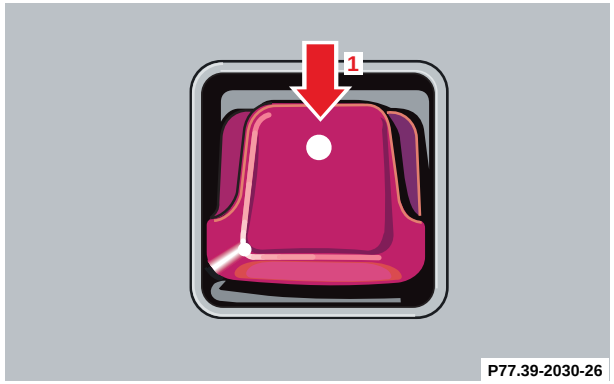


Important!

Do not manually move corner flaps of rear shelf. Doing so will result in damage to the roof folding mechanism that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Prior to cleaning the rear window, see page 249.

Lowering Hardtop



1. Engage parking brake.
2. Turn key in steering lock to position 2.

3. Slide hardtop switch back (1) and hold:
 - The indicator lamp in the hardtop switch lights up.

 Note:

 If indicator lamp blinks slowly, a malfunction has occurred in the system.

 If indicator lamp blinks rapidly, the trunk lid and/or the luggage cover may be open, and need to be closed.

 - The door windows lower.
 - The trunk lid opens rearward.
 - The hardtop lowers into its storage compartment, simultaneously the shelf behind roll bars opens, and rear quarter windows lower.
 - The shelf behind the roll bars closes.
 - The trunk lid closes.
 - The indicator lamp in the hardtop switch goes out – the opening procedure is completed.

If the hardtop switch is held or is released and slid back again within approximately 30 seconds, the door windows will close.

However, the door windows can also be closed/opened later on. Slide hardtop switch twice forward/backward and hold.

The rear quarter windows cannot be raised with the hardtop lowered.

Notes:

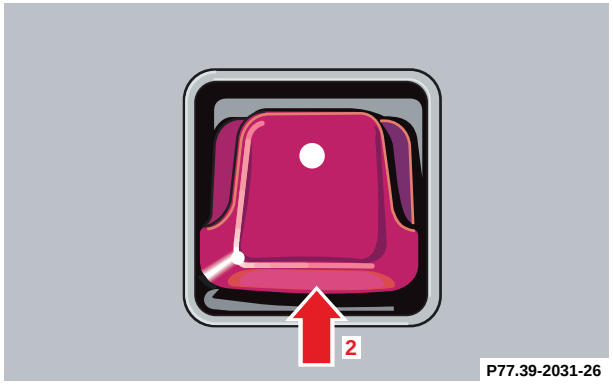
For safety reasons, the hardtop cannot be lowered while driving.

Lowering a wet hardtop can result in water reaching the vehicle interior. The hardtop should be dry when lowering it into the storage compartment.

Warning!

To prevent possible accidents, drive the vehicle only with the hardtop either completely closed and locked, or fully lowered into its storage compartment.

Raising Hardtop



1. Engage parking brake.
2. Turn key in steering lock to position 2.
3. Slide hardtop switch forward (2) and hold:
 - The indicator lamp in the hardtop switch lights up.

 Note:

 If indicator lamp blinks slowly, a malfunction has occurred in the system.

 If indicator lamp blinks rapidly, the trunk lid and/or the luggage cover may be open, and need to be closed.

 - The door windows lower.
 - The trunk lid opens rearward.
 - The hardtop is raised from its storage compartment, simultaneously the shelf behind roll bars opens and rear quarter windows close.
 - The shelf behind the roll bars closes.
 - The trunk lid closes, and the hardtop locks.
 - The indicator lamp in the hardtop switch goes out - the closing procedure is completed.

If the hardtop switch is held or is released and slid forward again within approximately 30 seconds, the door windows will close.

However, the door windows can also be closed/opened later on. Slide hardtop switch twice forward/backward and hold.

Warning!

The hardtop is not fully closed and locked:

- **if the indicator lamp in the hardtop switch does not go out (key in steering lock position 2),**
- **if the indicator lamp blinks, and a warning sounds for 10 seconds when starting to drive.**

Stop the vehicle and before continuing to drive, close and lock the hardtop:

The key should be in steering lock position 2.

Slide the hardtop switch forward.

To prevent possible accidents, drive the vehicle only with the hardtop either completely closed and locked, or fully lowered into its storage compartment.

For safety reasons, the hardtop cannot be raised while driving. However, if the hardtop is not completely locked after raising it, you can then lock it while driving by pushing the hardtop switch forward.

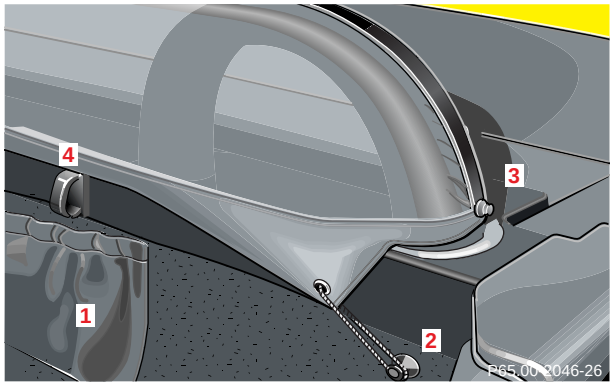
If the indicator lamp in the hardtop switch blinks slowly while activating the switch,

- the battery voltage may be insufficient – start engine and let run while activating switch,
- the system may be overloaded (for example after lowering or raising the hardtop approximately 5 consecutive times) - after approximately 10 minutes the hardtop switch may be activated again.

If the indicator lamp continues to blink, lock the hardtop manually, see page 238.

Have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Wind screen



1 Storage bag

2 Pin

3 Snap button

4 Coat hook

Installation

1. Remove screen from its storage bag (1), located on wall behind the seat backrests, and unfold.
2. Attach straps to pins (2).
3. Close snap buttons (3).
4. Pull wind screen on molding over roll bars.

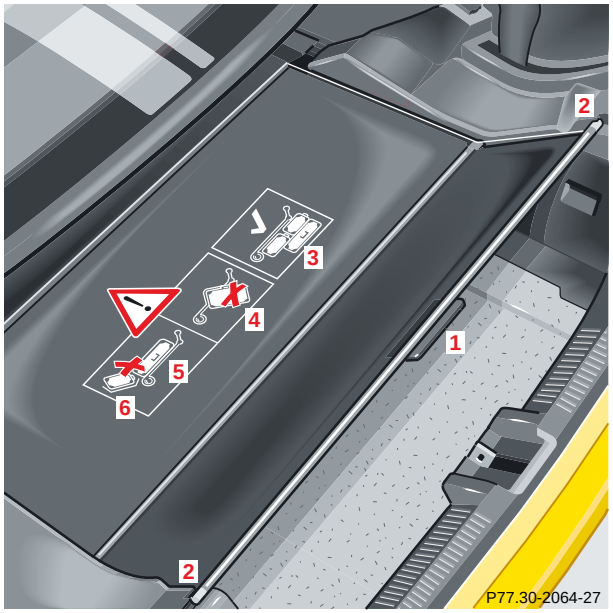
Warning!

The wind screen can restrict the driver's vision to the rear of the vehicle. To prevent a possible accident at time of limited sight distance (e.g. darkness), the wind screen should be removed.

Note:

Pull on snap button head to open the snap button.

Luggage cover



1 Handle

2 Holder

To close compartment:

Pull out on handle and hook guide rod into left and right side holders.

To open compartment:

Unhook guide rod from holders and guide luggage cover into storage compartment.

Important!

To prevent damage to hardtop or luggage/cargo when lowering the roof:

- load trunk only to the height of the luggage cover (3),
- do not permit luggage/cargo to raise the closed luggage cover (4),
- do not load anything on top of the luggage cover (5),
- do not place anything on shelf behind roll bars (6).

Driving

Control and operation of radio transmitters 130
The first 1 000 miles (1 500 km) 131
Maintenance 131
Tele Aid 132
Catalytic converter 140
Emission control 141
Steering lock 142
Starting and turning off the engine 144
Manual transmission 145
Automatic transmission 147
Parking brake 156
Driving instructions 157
Drive sensibly – Save Fuel 157
Drinking and driving 157
Pedals 157
Power assistance 158
Brakes 158
Driving off 159
Parking 159
Tires 160
Snow chains 163
Winter driving instructions 163
Block heater 165
Deep water 165
Passenger compartment 165
Traveling abroad 165
Cruise control 166
Brake assist system (BAS) 169
Antilock brake system (ABS) 171
Electronic stability program (ESP) 173
What you should know at the gas station 177
Check regularly and before a long trip 179

Control and operation of radio transmitters

Radio and telephone

Warning!

Please do not forget that your primary responsibility is to drive the vehicle. Only operate the radio or telephone[1] if road and traffic conditions permit.

Bear in mind that at a speed of just 30 mph (approximately 50 km/h), your vehicle is covering a distance of approximately 50 feet (approximately 14 m) every second.

1 Observe all legal requirements.

Telephones and two-way radio

Warning!

Never operate radio transmitters equipped with a built-in or attached antenna (i.e. without being connected to an external antenna) from inside the vehicle while the engine is running. Doing so could lead to a malfunction of the vehicle's electronic system, possibly resulting in an accident and personal injury.

Radio transmitters, such as a portable telephone or a citizens band unit should only be used inside the vehicle if they are connected to an antenna that is installed on the outside of the vehicle.

Refer to the radio transmitter operation instructions regarding use of an external antenna.

The first 1 000 miles (1 500 km)

The more cautiously you treat your vehicle during the break-in period, the more satisfied you will be with its performance later on. Therefore, drive your vehicle during the first 1 000 miles (1 500 km) at moderate vehicle and engine speeds.

During this period, avoid heavy loads (full throttle driving) and excessive engine speeds.

Manual transmission:
Downshift at proper engine speeds.

Automatic transmission:
Avoid accelerating by kickdown. It is not recommended to brake the vehicle by manually shifting to a lower gear. We recommend that you select positions “3”, “2” or “1” only at moderate speeds (for hill driving).

After 1 000 miles (1 500 km) speeds may be gradually increased to the permissible maximum.

Maintenance

We strongly recommend that you have your vehicle serviced by your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center, in accordance with the Service Booklet at the times called for by the FSS.

Failure to have the vehicle maintained in accordance with the Service Booklet at the designated times/ mileage may result in vehicle damage not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

For information on the Flexible service system (FSS), see page 77.

Tele Aid

Important!

The initial activation of the Tele Aid system may only be performed by completing the subscriber agreement and placing an acquaintance call using the “SOS” button. Failure to complete either of these steps will result in a system that is not activated. If the system is not activated the indicator lamp in the “SOS” button stays on after turning electronic key in starter switch to position 2.

If you have any questions regarding activation, please call the Response Center at 1-800-756-9018 (in the USA) or 1-888-923-8367 (in Canada).

(**Tele**matic **A**larm **I**dentification on **D**emand)

The Tele Aid system consists of three types of response; automatic and manual emergency, roadside assistance and information.

The Tele Aid system is operational providing that the vehicle’s battery is charged and properly connected, not damaged and cellular and GPS coverage is available. To activate, press the “SOS” button, the Roadside Assistance button or the Information button, depending on the type of response required.

Shortly after the completion of your Acquaintance Call, you will receive a user ID and password via first call mail. By visiting www.mbusa.com and selecting “Tele Aid” (USA only), you will have access to account information, remote door unlock and more.

System self-check

Initially, after turning the key in steering lock to position 2, malfunctions are detected and indicated (the indicator lamps in the “SOS” button, the Roadside Assistance button and the Information button stay on longer than 10 seconds or do not come on).

Important!

Always make sure that the indicator lamps in the “SOS” button, in the “Roadside Assistance” button and in the “Information” button do not remain illuminated constantly in red after the system self check.

If a malfunction is indicated as outlined above, have the system checked at the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Emergency calls

An emergency call is initiated automatically:

- following an accident in which the Emergency Tensioning Retractors (ETR's) or airbags deploy,
- if the antitheft alarm or the tow away alarm stays on for more than 20 seconds, see pages 35 and 37.

An emergency call can also be initiated manually by opening the cover next to the inside rear view mirror labeled "SOS", then briefly pressing the button located under the cover. See below for instructions on initiating an emergency call manually.

Once the emergency call is in progress, the indicator lamp in the "SOS" button will begin to flash. All information relevant to the emergency, such as the location of the vehicle (determined by the GPS satellite location system), vehicle model, identification number and color are generated.

A voice connection between the Response Center and the occupants of the vehicle will be established automatically soon after the emergency call has been initiated. When a voice connection is established the audio system mutes. The Response Center will attempt to determine more precisely the nature of the accident provided they can speak to an occupant of the vehicle.

The Tele Aid system is available if:

- it has been activated and is operational. Activation requires a subscription for monitoring services and cellular air time
- the relevant cellular phone network and GPS signals are available and pass the information on to the Response Center.

Note:

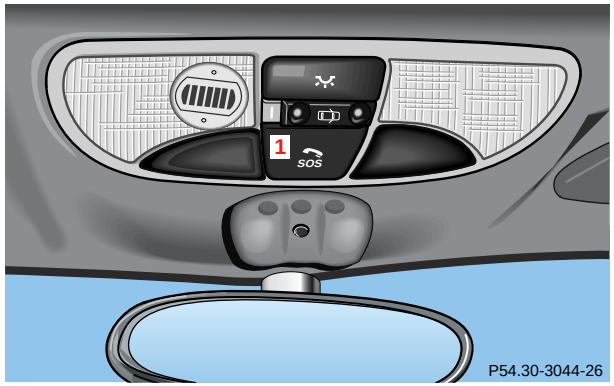
Location of the vehicle on a map is possible if the vehicle is able to receive signals from the GPS satellite network and pass the information on to the Response Center.

Warning!

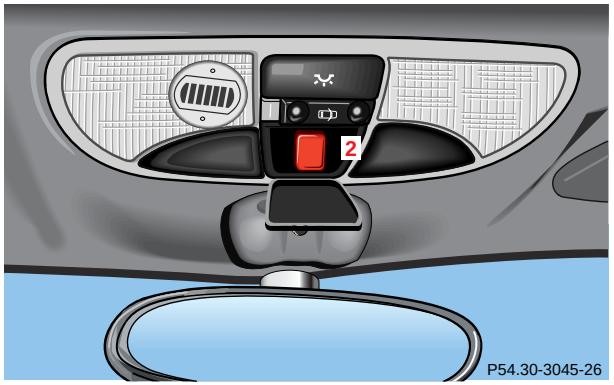
If the indicator lamp in the "SOS" button is illuminated continuously and there was no voice connection to the Response Center established, then the Tele Aid system could not initiate an emergency call (e.g. the relevant cellular phone network is not available).

Should this occur, assistance must be summoned by other means.

Initiating an emergency call manually



Briefly press on cover (1) – the cover will open.



Press the SOS button (2) briefly. The indicator lamp in the SOS button (2) will flash until the emergency call is concluded. Wait for a voice connection to the Response Center.

Close the cover (1) after the emergency call is concluded.

Warning!

If you feel at any way in jeopardy when in the vehicle (e.g. smoke or fire in the vehicle, vehicle in a dangerous road location), please do not wait for voice contact after you have pressed the emergency button. Carefully leave the vehicle and move to a safe location. The Response Center will automatically contact local emergency officials with the vehicle's approximate location if they receive an automatic "SOS" signal and cannot make voice contact with the vehicle occupants.

Roadside Assistance button

Located below the center armrest cover is the Roadside Assistance button. Pressing and holding the button (for longer than 2 seconds), will initiate a call to a Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance dispatcher. The button will flash while the call is in progress. The Tele Aid system will transmit data generating the vehicle identification number, model, color and location (subject to availability of cellular and GPS signals).

A voice connection between the Roadside Assistance dispatcher and the occupants of the vehicle will be established. The nature of the need for assistance can then be described.

The Mercedes-Benz Roadside assistance dispatcher will either dispatch a qualified Mercedes-Benz technician or arrange to tow your vehicle to the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center. For services such as labor and/or towing charges may apply. Refer to the Roadside Assistance manual for more information.

These programs are only available in the USA:

- Sign and Drive services: Services such as jump start, a few gallons of fuel or the replacement of a flat tire with the vehicle spare tire are obtainable,
- Remote Vehicle Diagnostics: This function permits the Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance dispatcher to download malfunction codes and actual vehicle data.

Notes:

The indicator lamp in the Roadside Assistance button remains illuminated in red for approximately 10 seconds during the system self-check after turning key in steering lock to position 2 (together with the "SOS" button and the Information button).

See system self-check on page 132 when the indicator lamp does not light up in red or stays on longer than approximately 10 seconds.

If the indicator lamp in the Roadside Assistance button is illuminated continuously and there was no voice connection to the Response Center established, then the Tele Aid system could not initiate an Roadside Assistance call (e.g. the relevant cellular phone network is not available).

Information button

Located below the center armrest cover is the Information button. Pressing and holding the button (for longer than 2 seconds), will initiate a call to the Client Assistance Center. The button will flash while the call is in progress. The Tele Aid system will transmit data generating the vehicle identification number, model, color and location (subject to availability of cellular and GPS signals).

A voice connection between the Client Assistance Center representative and the occupants of the vehicle will be established. Information regarding the operation of your vehicle, the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center or Mercedes-Benz USA products and services is available to you.

For more details concerning Tele Aid, please visit www.mbusa.com and use your ID and password, sent to you separately, to learn more (USA only).

Notes:

The indicator lamp in the Information button remains illuminated in red for approximately 10 seconds during the system self-check after turning key in steering lock to position 2 (together with the “SOS” button and the Roadside Assistance button).

See system self-check on page 132 when the indicator lamp does not light up in red or stays on longer than approximately 10 seconds.

If the indicator lamp in the Information button is illuminated continuously and there was no voice connection to the Response Center established, then the Tele Aid system could not initiate an Information call (e.g. the relevant cellular phone network is not available).

Important!

If the indicator lamps do not start flashing after pressing one of the buttons or remain illuminated (in red) at any time, the Tele Aid system has detected a fault or the service is not currently active, and may not initiate a call. Visit your Mercedes-Benz Center and have the system checked or contact the Response Center at 1-800-756-9018 (in the USA) or 1-888-923-8367 (in Canada) as soon as possible.

Upgrade Signals

Tele Aid system processes calls using the following priority.

- Automatic emergency – First priority
- Manual emergency – Second priority
- Roadside assistance – Third priority
- Information – Fourth priority

Should a higher priority call be initiated while you are connected, an upgrade (alternating) tone will be heard, and the appropriate indicator lamp will flash. If certain information such as vehicle identification number or client information is not available, the operator may need to retransmit. During this time you will hear a chirp and voice contact will be interrupted. Voice contact will resume once the retransmission is completed. Once a call is concluded, a chirp will be heard and the appropriate indicator lamp will stop flashing. The audio system operation will resume.

Important!

If the indicator lamp continues to flash or the system does not reset, contact the Response Center at 1-800-756-9018 (in the USA) or 1-888-923-8367 (in Canada), or Mercedes-Benz Client Assistance at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes (1-800-367-6372) in the USA or Customer Service at 1-800-387-0100 in Canada.

Notes:

The indicator lamp in the respective button flashes until the call is concluded and this can only be completed by a Response Center or Client Assistance Center representative.

When a Tele Aid call has been initiated, the audio system is muted and the selected mode (radio, tape or CD) pauses. The optional cellular phone (if installed) switches off. If you must use this phone, the vehicle must be parked. Disconnect the coiled cord and place the call.

Remote door unlock

In the case you have your vehicle locked unintentionally (e.g. key inside vehicle), and the reserve key is not handy, contact the Mercedes-Benz Response Center at 1-800-756-9018 (in the USA) or 1-888-923-8367 (in Canada). You will be asked to provide your password which you provided when you completed the subscriber agreement.

Then return to your vehicle and pull outside trunk handle for a minimum of 20 seconds.

The Response Center will then unlock your vehicle with the remote door unlocking feature.

Note:

The remote door unlock feature is available if the relevant cellular phone network is available.

The SOS button will flash to indicate receipt of the door unlock command. Once the vehicle is unlocked, a Response Center specialist will attempt to establish voice contact with the vehicle occupants.

If the trunk handle was pulled for more than 20 seconds before door unlock authorization was received by the Response Center, you must wait 15 minutes before pulling the trunk handle again.

Stolen vehicle tracking services

In the event your vehicle was stolen, report the incident to the police who will issue numbered incident report. Pass this number on to the Mercedes-Benz Response Center.

The Response Center will then attempt to covertly contact the vehicle's Tele Aid system. Once the vehicle is located, the Response Center will contact the local Law Enforcement and you. The vehicle's location will only be provided to Law Enforcement.

Important!

Tele Aid utilizes the cellular network for communication and the GPS (Global Positioning System) satellites for vehicle location. If either of these signals are unavailable, the Tele Aid system may not function and if this occurs, assistance must be summoned by other means.

Warning!

The Tele Aid control unit is located under the driver's seat. If there is accumulation of water or other liquid in this area, the Tele Aid control unit could suffer an electrical short circuit making the system inoperative. In this case the indicator lamp in the "SOS" button does not illuminate during or remains illuminated after the system self-check. Have the system checked at the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Catalytic converter

Your Mercedes-Benz is equipped with monolithic type catalytic converters, an important element in conjunction with the oxygen sensors to achieve substantial control of the pollutants in the exhaust emissions. Keep your vehicle in proper operating condition by following our recommended maintenance instructions as outlined in your Service Booklet.

Caution!

To prevent damage to the catalytic converters, use only premium unleaded gasoline in this vehicle.

Any noticeable irregularities in engine operation should be repaired promptly. Otherwise, excessive unburned fuel may reach the catalytic converter causing it to overheat, which could start a fire.

Warning!

As with any vehicle, do not idle, park or operate this vehicle in areas where combustible materials such as grass, hay or leaves can come into contact with the hot exhaust system, as these materials could be ignited and cause a vehicle fire.

Emission control

Certain systems of the engine serve to keep the toxic components of the exhaust gases within permissible limits required by law.

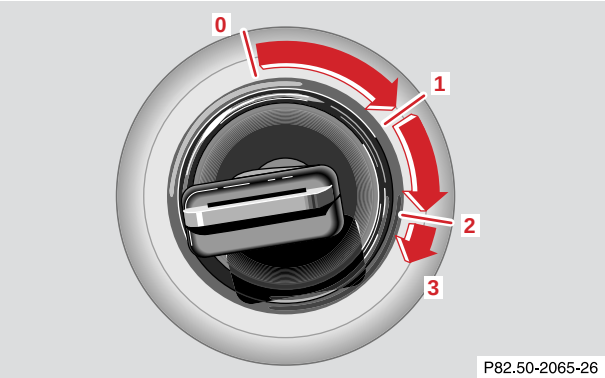
These systems, of course, will function properly only when maintained strictly according to factory specifications. Any adjustments on the engine should, therefore, be carried out only by qualified Mercedes-Benz Center authorized technicians. Engine adjustments should not be altered in any way. Moreover, the specified service jobs must be carried out regularly according to Mercedes-Benz servicing requirements. For details refer to the Service Booklet.

Warning!

Inhalation of exhaust gas is hazardous to your health. All exhaust gas contains carbon monoxide, and inhaling it can cause unconsciousness and lead to death.

Do not run the engine in confined areas (such as a garage) which are not properly ventilated. If you think that exhaust gas fumes are entering the vehicle while driving, have the cause determined and corrected immediately. If you must drive under these conditions, drive only with at least one window fully open.

Steering lock



0 The key can be withdrawn in this position only. The steering is locked when the key is removed from the steering lock. If necessary, move steering wheel slightly to allow the locking mechanism to engage.

In vehicles equipped with automatic transmission, the key can only be removed with the selector lever in position “P”. After removing the key or with the key in steering lock position 0, the selector lever is locked in position “P”.

1 Steering is unlocked.

(If necessary, move steering wheel slightly to allow the key to be turned clockwise to position 1.)

Most electrical consumers can be operated. For detailed information see respective subjects.

2 Driving position.

3 Starting position.

See page 144 for instructions on starting and turning off the engine.

Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock the vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment may cause serious personal injury.

Notes:

A warning sounds when the driver's door is opened while the key is in steering lock position 1 or 0.

With the engine at idle speed, the charging rate of the alternator (output) is limited.

It is therefore recommended that you turn off unnecessary electrical consumers while driving in stop-and-go traffic. This precaution helps to avoid draining of the battery.

Unnecessary strain on the battery and charging system may be minimized by turning off the following power consumers, for example: Heated seats, rear window defroster.

Caution!

To prevent accelerated battery discharge and a possible dead battery, always remove the key from the steering lock. **Do not** leave the key in steering lock position 0.

Starting and turning off the engine

Before starting

Ensure that parking brake is engaged and that selector lever is in position “P” or “N” (gearshift lever in neutral). Turn key in steering lock to position 2.

Starting

Vehicles with automatic transmission:

Do not depress accelerator. Briefly turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop and release. The starter will engage until the engine is running.

If engine will not run, and the starting procedure stops, turn key completely to the left and repeat starting the engine.

After several unsuccessful attempts, have the system checked at the nearest authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Vehicles with manual transmission:

Do not depress accelerator. Fully depress clutch pedal, otherwise the engine cannot be started due to the integrated safety interlock.

Turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop. Release key only when the engine is firing regularly.

Important!

Due to the installed starter nonrepeat feature, the key must be turned completely to the left before attempting to start the engine again.

In areas where temperatures frequently drop below -4°F (-20°C) we recommend that an engine block heater be installed. Your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will advise you on this subject, see page 165.

Turning off

Turn the key in the steering lock to position 0 to stop the engine.

Vehicles with automatic transmission:

The key can only be removed with your foot off the brake pedal and the selector lever in position “P”.

Manual transmission



See illustration for gearshift lever positions corresponding to the individual gears.

Stop the vehicle completely before shifting into reverse; to shift into reverse, pull the gearshift lever up.

Do not exceed the maximum engine speed in the individual gears. Refer to tachometer (see page 76) for engine speeds.

Important!

Downshifting gears leading to overrevving the engine can result in transmission damage that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Do not exceed engine speed limits, see page 76 .

Warning!

For vehicles equipped with a manual transmission, getting out of your vehicle with the gearshift lever not engaged in 1st or reverse gear and parking brake engaged is dangerous.
Also, when parked on an incline, an engaged 1st or reverse gear alone may not prevent your vehicle from moving, possibly hitting people or objects.

Always set the parking brake in addition to engaging 1st or reverse gear, see page 156 for parking brake.

When parked on an incline, also turn front wheel towards the road curb.

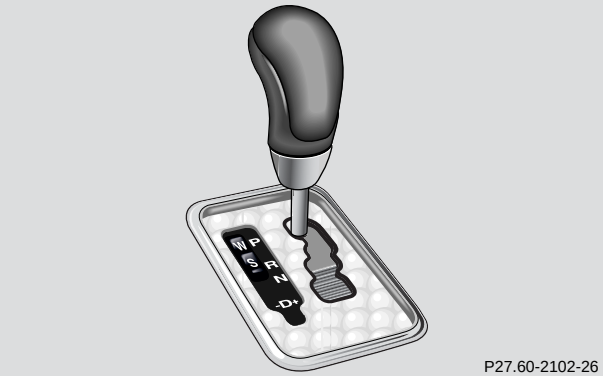
Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock the vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Children could move the gearshift lever, which could result in an accident or serious injury.

Warning!

On slippery road surfaces as well as high engine speeds, never downshift in order to obtain braking action. This could result in drive wheel slip and reduced vehicle control. Your vehicle's ABS will not prevent this type of loss of control.

Automatic transmission



The automatic transmission selects individual gears automatically, dependent upon

- Selector lever position, see page 150
- Program mode selector switch, see page 154
- Accelerator position
- Vehicle speed

The gear shifting process is continuously adapted, dependent on the driving style, the driving situation and the road characteristics.

Important!

When parking the car or before working on the vehicle with the engine running, firmly engage the parking brake and shift the selector lever into “P”.

Driving

The selector lever is automatically locked while in position “P”. To move the selector lever out of position “P”, the service brake pedal must be firmly depressed before the shift lock will release.

Shift selector lever to the desired position only when the engine is idling normally and the service brake is applied. Do not release the brake until ready to drive. The vehicle may otherwise start creeping when the selector lever is in drive or reverse position.

Warning!

It is dangerous to shift the selector lever out of “P” or “N” if the engine speed is higher than idle speed. If your foot is not firmly on the brake pedal, the vehicle could accelerate quickly forward or in reverse. You could lose control of the vehicle and hit someone or something. Only shift into gear when the engine is idling normally and when your right foot is firmly on the brake pedal.

Important!

After selecting any driving position from “N” or “P”, wait a moment to allow the gear to fully engage before accelerating, especially when the engine is cold.

Accelerator position

Partial throttle = early upshifting = normal acceleration

Full throttle = later upshifting = rapid acceleration

Kickdown (depressing the accelerator beyond full throttle) = downshifting to a lower gear = maximum acceleration. Once the desired speed is attained, ease up on the accelerator – the transmission shifts up again.

Stopping

For brief stops, e.g. at traffic lights, leave the transmission in gear and hold vehicle with the service brake.

For longer stops with the engine idling, shift into “N” or “P” and hold the vehicle with the service brake.

When stopping the vehicle on an uphill gradient, do not hold it with the accelerator, use the brake. This avoids unnecessary transmission heat build up.

Maneuvering

To maneuver in tight areas, e.g. when pulling into a parking space, control the vehicle speed by gradually releasing the brakes. Accelerate gently and never abruptly step on the accelerator.

To rock a vehicle out of soft ground (mud or snow), alternately shift from forward to reverse, while applying only slight partial throttle.

Rocking a vehicle free in this manner may cause the ABS or traction system malfunction indicator lamp to come on. Turn off and restart the engine to clear the malfunction indication.

Warning!

Getting out of your vehicle with the selector lever not fully engaged in position “P” is dangerous. Also, when parked on an incline, position “P” alone may not prevent your vehicle from moving, possibly hitting people or objects.

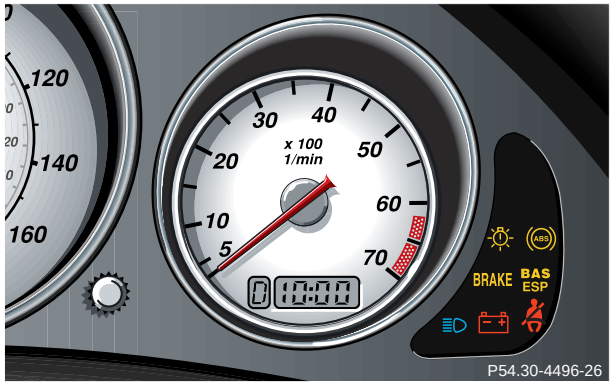
Always set the parking brake in addition to shifting to position “P”, see page 156 for parking brake.

When parked on an incline, also turn front wheel towards the road curb.

Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock, and lock the vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Children could move the gear selector lever from position “P”, which could result in an accident or serious injury.

Selector lever position



The current selector lever position is indicated in the gear range indicator display. The automatic gear shifting process can be adapted to specific operating conditions using the selector lever.

P Park position

The park position is to be used when parking the vehicle. Engage only with the vehicle stopped. The park position is not intended to serve as a brake when the vehicle is parked. Rather, the driver should always use the parking brake in addition to placing the selector lever in park to secure the vehicle.

Notes:

The key can be removed from the steering lock only with the foot off the brake pedal and the selector lever in position “P”. With the key removed, the selector lever is locked in position “P”.

With a malfunction in the vehicle’s electrical system the selector lever could remain locked in position “P”. To unlock the selector lever manually, see page 229.

R Reverse gear

Shift to reverse gear only with the vehicle stopped.

Dependent on the program mode selector switch position “S” or “W” the maximum speed in the reverse gear is different. However, it is not possible to change the program mode while in reverse.

N **Neutral**

No power is transmitted from the engine to the drive axle. When the brakes are released, the vehicle can be moved freely (pushed or towed). Do not engage “N” while driving except to coast when the vehicle is in danger of skidding (e.g. on icy roads, see page 163 for winter driving instructions).

Important!

Coasting the vehicle, or driving for any other reason with selector lever in “N” can result in transmission damage that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

D **Drive**

The transmission automatically upshifts through 5th gear. Position “D” provides optimum driving characteristics under all normal operating conditions.

Gear selection for special circumstances

The transmission gear ranges for special circumstances can be selected by pressing the selector lever to the right or the left with the selector lever in position “D”.

The gear range currently selected is indicated in the instrument cluster display.

Briefly press selector lever in the “D −” direction:
The transmission shift from the current gear range to the next lower gear range.

Press and hold selector lever in the “D −” direction:
The selector lever position display will switch to the gear range currently selected by the automatic transmission.

Shifting into another gear range that allows for quicker acceleration or to slow the vehicle down is possible. Downshifts can also be performed.

Note:

To avoid overrevving the engine when the selector lever is moved in “D −” direction, the transmission will not shift to a lower gear range if the engine’s revolutions per minute limit would be exceeded.

Briefly press selector lever in the “D +” direction:
The transmission will shift from the current gear range to the next higher gear range. If the transmission is already in gear range “D”, an additional upshift of one gear is possible.

Press and hold selector lever in the “D +” direction:
The transmission will shift from the current gear range directly to gear range “D”.

Warning!

On slippery road surfaces, never downshift in order to obtain braking action. This could result in drive wheel slip and reduced vehicle control. Your vehicle’s ABS will not prevent this type of loss of control.

Important!

With transmission in gear range “D”, “4” or “3”, upshifting from 1st to 2nd to 3rd gear is delayed depending on vehicle speed and engine temperature. This allows the catalytic converter to heat up more quickly to operating temperatures.

During the brief warm-up period this delayed upshift and increased engine noise might be perceived as a malfunction. However, neither the engine nor transmission are negatively affected by this mode of operation.

The delayed upshift is effective with vehicle speeds below 31 mph (50 km/h) at partial throttle and engine temperatures below 95°F (35°C).

To prevent the engine from laboring at low RPM when driving uphill gradients or with your vehicle heavily loaded, the automatic transmission will downshift when necessary to maintain engine RPM within the best torque range.

Gear ranges:

4 Upshift through 4th gear only. Suitable for performance driving.

3 Upshift through 3rd gear only. Suitable for moderately steep hills. Since the transmission does not shift higher than 3rd gear, this gear selection will allow use of the engine's braking power downhill.

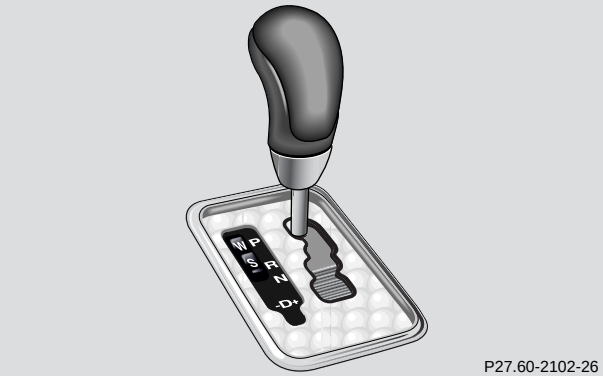
2 Upshift through 2nd gear only. For driving in mountainous regions or under extreme operating conditions. This gear selection will allow use of the engine's braking power when descending steep grades.

1 Use this position, which makes maximum use of the engine's braking effect, while descending very steep or lengthy downgrades and only at speeds below 40 mph (60 km/h).

Note:

To avoid overrevving the engine on rpm limit, the transmission will upshift automatically to the next higher gear as long as the vehicle is accelerating.

Program mode selector switch



P27.60-2102-26

The transmission is provided with a selector switch for Standard “S” and Winter/Wet (snow and ice) “W” program modes.

S Standard mode

Press switch on symbol “S”. Use this mode for all regular driving.

The vehicle starts out in 1st gear.

Accelerator Operation:
Fast on = depressing the accelerator pedal quickly (not into kickdown position) while driving continuously, rather than depressing the accelerator pedal in the usual manner, will cause the automatic transmission to shift down into a lower gear. This gear shifting process is dependent on the current vehicle speed.

Fast off = there will be no upshift when releasing the accelerator pedal quickly, e.g. using the engine’s braking power during performance driving.

W Winter/Wet (snow and ice) mode

Press switch on symbol “W”. The vehicle starts out in 2nd gear, except with selector lever in 1st gear, or with accelerator pedal in kick-down position.

The “W” mode helps to improve traction and driving stability of the vehicle.

The gear shifting process occurs at lower vehicle and engine speeds than in the “S” program mode.

Caution!

Never change the program mode when the selector lever is out of position “P”. It could result in a change of driving characteristics for which you may not be prepared.

Important!

Always be certain of the program mode selected since the vehicle driving characteristics change with the selection of the program mode.

Dependent on the program mode selector switch position “S” or “W” and the gear selector lever in position “R”, the ratio of power transmission changes.

Emergency Operation (Limp Home Mode)

If vehicle acceleration worsens, or the transmission no longer shifts, the transmission is most likely operating in Limp Home Mode which engages when there is a malfunction of the transmission. This condition may be accompanied by the “CHECK ENGINE” malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster coming on.

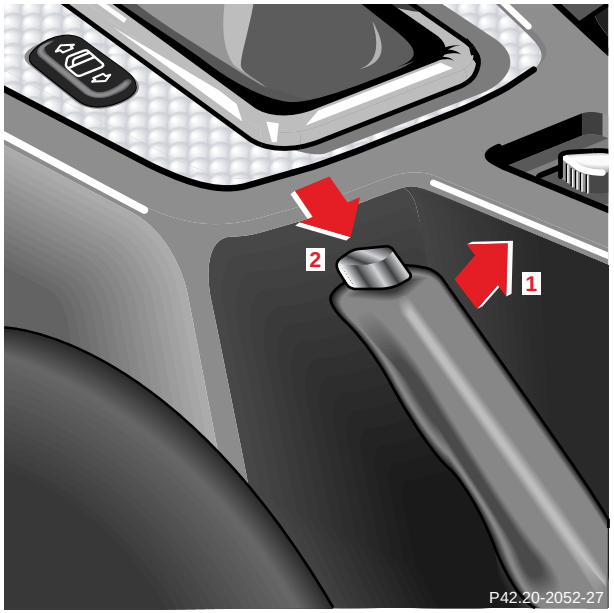
In this mode only the 2nd gear or reverse gear can be activated.

To engage 2nd gear or reverse:

1. Stop the vehicle.
2. Move selector lever to position “P”.
3. Turn off the engine.
4. Wait approximately 10 seconds.
5. Restart the engine.
6. Move selector lever to position “D” (for 2nd gear), or move selector lever to position “R” (for reverse gear).

Have the transmission checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Parking brake



To engage, firmly pull up brake handle (1). When the key is in steering lock position 2, the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster should come on brightly.

To release, slightly pull up handle while pushing lock button (2), and guide lever downward to its stop. The brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster should go out.

A warning sounds, if you start to drive without having released the parking brake.

Also see brake warning lamp on page 183.

Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the electronic key from the steering lock, and lock the vehicle. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle, or with access to an unlocked vehicle. Children could release the parking brake, which could result in an accident or serious injury.

Driving instructions

Drive sensibly – Save Fuel

Fuel consumption, to a great extent, depends on driving habits and operating conditions.

To save fuel you should:

- keep tires at the recommended inflation pressures,
- remove unnecessary loads,
- allow engine to warm up under low load use,
- avoid frequent acceleration and deceleration,
- have all maintenance work performed at regular intervals by an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Fuel consumption is also increased by driving in cold weather, in stop-and-go traffic, on short trips and in hilly country.

Drinking and driving

Warning!

Drinking or taking drugs and driving can be a very dangerous combination. Even a small amount of alcohol or drugs can affect your reflexes, perceptions and judgement.

The possibility of a serious or even fatal accident is sharply increased when you drink or take drugs and drive.

Please don't drink or take drugs and drive or allow anyone to drive after drinking or taking drugs.

Pedals

Warning!

Keep driver's foot area clear at all times. Objects stored in this area may impair pedal movement.

Power assistance

Warning!

When the engine is not running, the brake and steering systems are without power assistance. Under these circumstances, a much greater effort is necessary to stop or steer the vehicle.

Brakes

Warning!

After driving in heavy rain for some time without applying the brakes or through water deep enough to wet brake components, the first braking action may be somewhat reduced and increased pedal pressure may be necessary to obtain expected braking effect. Be sure to maintain a safe distance from vehicles in front.

Resting your foot on the brake pedal will cause excessive and premature wear of the brake pads.

It can also result in the brakes overheating thereby significantly reducing their effectiveness. It may not be possible to stop the vehicle in sufficient time to avoid an accident.

The condition of the parking brake system is checked each time the vehicle is in the shop for the required maintenance service.

If the parking brake is released and the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster stays on, the brake fluid level in the reservoir is too low.

Brake pad wear or a leak in the system may be the reason for low brake fluid in the reservoir.

Have the brake system inspected at an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center immediately.

All checks and service work on the brake system should be carried out by an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Install only brake pads and brake fluid recommended by Mercedes-Benz.

Warning!

If other than recommended brake pads are installed, or other than recommended brake fluid is used, the braking properties of the vehicle can be degraded to an extent that safe braking is substantially impaired. This could result in an accident.

Caution!

When driving down long and steep grades, relieve the load on the brakes by shifting into a lower gear to use the engine's braking power. This helps prevent overheating of the brakes and reduces brake pad wear.

After hard braking, it is advisable to drive on for some time, rather than immediately parking, so the air stream will cool down the brakes faster.

Driving off

Apply the service brakes to test them briefly after driving off. Perform this procedure only when the road is clear of other traffic.

Warm up the engine smoothly. Do not place full load on the engine until the operating temperature has been reached.

When starting off on a slippery surface, do not allow one drive wheel to spin for an extended period with the ESP switched off. Doing so may cause serious damage to the drive train which is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Parking

Warning!

To reduce the risk of personal injury as a result of vehicle movement, before turning off the engine and leaving the vehicle, always:

1. **Keep right foot on the service brake pedal.**
2. **Firmly engage parking brake.**
3. **Move the selector lever to position "P" (manual transmission: first or reverse gear).**
4. **Slowly release the service brake pedal.**
5. **Turn front wheels towards the road curb.**
6. **Turn the key to steering lock position 0 and remove.**
7. **Take the key and lock vehicle when leaving.**

Important!

It is advisable to set the parking brake whenever parking or leaving the vehicle. In addition, move selector lever to position “P” (manual transmission: first or reverse gear).

When parking on hills, always set the parking brake.

Tires

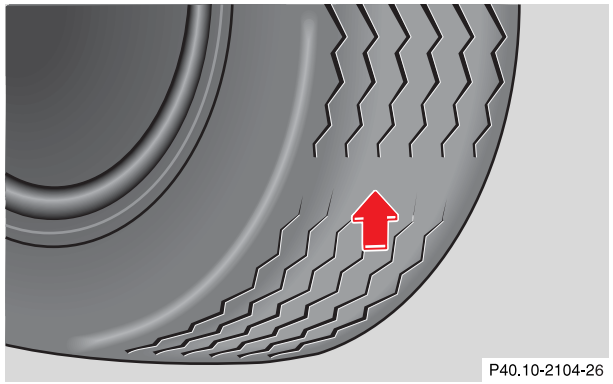
Warning!

If you feel a sudden significant vibration or ride disturbance, or you suspect that possible damage to your vehicle has occurred, you should turn on the hazard warning flashers, carefully slow down, and drive with caution to an area which is a safe distance from the roadway.

Inspect the tires and under the vehicle for possible damage. If the vehicle or tires appear unsafe, have it towed to the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center or tire dealer for repairs.

Tread wear indicators (TWI) are required by law. These indicators are located in six places on the tread circumference and become visible at a tread depth of approximately $^{1}/_{16}$ in (1.5 mm), at which point the tire is considered worn and should be replaced.

The tread wear indicator appears as a solid band across the tread.



Warning!

Do not allow your tires to wear down too far. As tread depth approaches $^{1}/_{16}$ in (1.5 mm), the adhesion properties on a wet road are sharply reduced.

Depending upon the weather and/or road surface (conditions), the tire traction varies widely.

Specified tire pressures must be maintained. This applies particularly if the tires are subjected to high loads (e.g. high speeds, heavy loads, high ambient temperatures).

Warning!

Do not drive with a flat tire. A flat tire affects the ability to steer or brake the vehicle. You may lose control of the vehicle. Continued driving with a flat tire or driving at high speed with a flat tire will cause excessive heat build-up and possibly a fire.

Aquaplaning

Depending on the depth of the water layer on the road, aquaplaning may occur, even at low speeds and with new tires. Reduce vehicle speed, avoid track grooves in the road and apply brakes cautiously in the rain.

Tire traction

The safe speed on a wet, snow covered or icy road is always lower than on a dry road.

You should pay particular attention to the condition of the road whenever the outside temperatures are close to the freezing point.

Warning!

If ice has formed on the road, tire traction will be substantially reduced. Under such weather conditions, drive, steer and brake with extreme caution.

We recommend M+S rated radial-ply tires for the winter season for all four wheels to insure normal balanced handling characteristics. On packed snow, they can reduce your stopping distance as compared with summer tires. Stopping distance, however, is still considerably greater than when the road is not snow or ice covered.

Tire speed rating

Vehicles without Sport Package:
Your vehicle is factory equipped with “V”-rated tires, which have a speed rating of 149 mph (240 km/h).

Vehicles with Sport Package only:
Your vehicle is factory equipped with “Z”-rated tires, which are permissible for speeds over 149 mph (240 km/h).

Despite the tire rating, local speed limits should be obeyed. Use prudent driving speeds appropriate to prevailing conditions.

Warning!

Even when permitted by law, never operate a vehicle at speeds greater than the maximum speed rating of the tires.

Exceeding the maximum speed for which tires are rated can lead to sudden tire failure causing loss of vehicle control and resulting in personal injury and possible death.

Snow chains

Use only snow chains that are tested and recommended by Mercedes-Benz. Your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will be glad to advise you on this subject.

Chains should only be used on the rear wheels. Follow the manufacturer's mounting instructions.

Snow chains should only be driven on snow covered roads at speeds not to exceed 30 mph (50 km/h). Remove chains as soon as possible when driving on roads without snow.

When driving with snow chains, press the ESP control switch to OFF, see page 175.

Important!

Use of snow chains is not permissible with tire size 225/50 R 16, with the collapsible spare tire, or with tire size 245/40 ZR 17 (Sport Package).

Winter driving instructions

The most important rule for slippery or icy roads is to drive sensibly and to avoid abrupt acceleration, braking and steering maneuvers. Do not use the cruise control system under such conditions.

When the vehicle is in danger of skidding, move selector lever to position "N" or in case of manual transmission declutch. Try to keep the vehicle under control by corrective steering action.

Road salts and chemicals can adversely affect braking efficiency. Increased pedal force may become necessary to produce the normal brake effect. We therefore recommend depressing the brake pedal periodically when traveling at length on salt-strewn roads. This can bring road salt impaired braking efficiency back to normal. A prerequisite is, however, that this be done without endangering other drivers on the road.

If the vehicle is parked after being driven on salt treated roads, the braking efficiency should be tested as soon as possible after driving is resumed while observing the safety rules in the previous paragraph.

Warning!

If the vehicle becomes stuck in snow, make sure that snow is kept clear of the exhaust pipe and from around the vehicle with engine running. Otherwise, deadly carbon monoxide (CO) gases may enter vehicle interior resulting in unconsciousness and death.

To assure sufficient fresh air ventilation, open a window slightly on the side of the vehicle not facing the wind.

Winter driving

Have your vehicle winterized at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center before the onset of winter.

- Change the engine oil if the engine contains an oil which is not approved for winter operation. For viscosity (SAE/CCMC class) and filling quantity, see page 266.
- Check engine coolant anticorrosion/antifreeze concentration.
- Additive for the windshield washer and headlamp cleaning system: Add MB Concentrate “S” to a premixed windshield washer solvent/antifreeze which is formulated for below freezing temperatures, see page 199.
- Test battery: Battery capacity drops with decreasing ambient temperature. A well charged battery helps to ensure that the engine can be started, even at low ambient temperatures.
- Tires: We recommend M+S rated radial-ply tires on all four wheels for the winter season. Observe permissible maximum speed for M+S rated radial-ply tires and the legal speed limit.

Note:

In winter operation, the maximum effectiveness of the antilock brake system (ABS) or electronic stability program (ESP) can only be achieved with M+S rated radial-ply tires and/or snow chains recommended by Mercedes-Benz. Snow chains maximize performance.

Block heater (for Canada only)

The engine is equipped with a block heater.

The electrical cable may be installed at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Deep water

Caution!

Do not drive through flooded areas or water of unknown depth.

If you must drive through deep water, drive slowly to prevent water from entering the engine compartment or passenger compartment, being ingested by the air intake, possibly causing damage to electrical components or wiring, to engine or transmission that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Passenger compartment

Warning!

Always fasten items being carried as securely as possible.

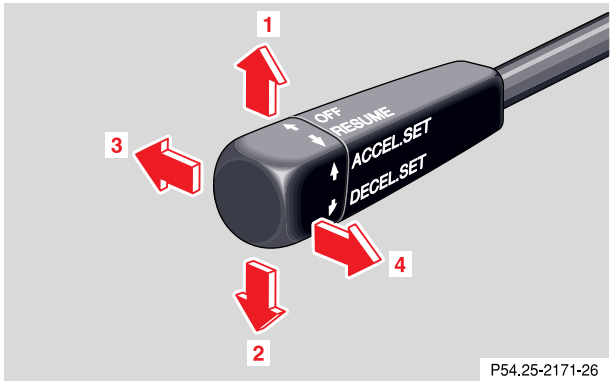
In an accident, during hard braking or sudden maneuvers, loose items will be thrown around inside the vehicle, and cause injury to vehicle occupants unless the items are securely fastened in the vehicle.

The trunk is the preferred place to carry objects.

Traveling abroad

Abroad, there is a widely-spread Mercedes-Benz service network at your disposal. If you plan to travel into areas which are not listed in the index of your Mercedes-Benz Center directory, you should request pertinent information from your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Cruise control



The cruise control allows you to drive in a more relaxed manner, for example over long distances, as it automatically maintains the set speed by actively regulating the throttle setting.

Any given speed above approximately 20 mph (30 km/h) can be maintained with the cruise control by operating the lever.

1 Accelerate and set:
Lift lever briefly to set speed. Hold lever up to accelerate.

2 Decelerate and set:
Depress lever briefly to set speed.
Hold lever down to decelerate.

Normally the vehicle is accelerated to the desired speed with the accelerator.

Speed is set by briefly pushing the lever to position 1 or 2. The accelerator can then be released.

The speed can be increased (e.g. for passing) by using the accelerator. After the accelerator is released, the previously set speed will be resumed automatically.

If a set speed is to be increased or decreased slightly, e. g. to adapt to the traffic flow, hold lever in position 1 or 2 until the desired speed is reached, or briefly tip the lever in the appropriate direction for increases or decreases in 0.6 mph (1 km/h) increments. When the lever is released, the newly set speed remains.

3 Canceling

To cancel the cruise control, briefly push lever to position 3.

When you step on the brake pedal or the vehicle speed drops below approximately 20 mph (30 km/h), for example when driving upgrade, the cruise control will be canceled.

If the cruise control cancels by itself and remains inoperative until the engine is restarted, have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

4 Resume

If the lever is briefly pushed to position 4 when driving at a speed exceeding approximately 20 mph (30 km/h), the vehicle resumes the speed which was set prior to the cancellation of the cruise control. The last memorized speed is canceled when the key in the steering lock is turned to position 1 or 0.

Important!

Moving gear selector lever to position “N” switches the cruise control off.

Warning!

Only use the cruise control if the traffic and weather conditions make it advisable to travel at a steady speed.

- **The use of cruise control can be dangerous on winding roads or in heavy traffic because conditions do not allow safe driving at a steady speed.**
- **The use of cruise control can be dangerous on slippery roads. Rapid changes in tire adhesion can result in wheel spin and loss of control.**

The “Resume” function should only be operated if the driver is fully aware of the previously set speed and wishes to resume this particular preset speed.

Notes:

If the engine does not brake the vehicle sufficiently while driving on a downgrade, the speed you set on the cruise control may be exceeded. In this case the following will assist in maintaining the set cruise controlled speed:

Vehicles with automatic transmission:

Downshift occurs (max. to 3rd gear) to maintain the set cruise controlled speed by using the engine’s braking power.

As soon as the grade eases, the automatic transmission shifts up again dependent on the selector lever position.

Vehicles with manual transmission:

The set cruise controlled speed is switched off when declutching exceeds four seconds during downshifting a gear.

Nevertheless, in some cases you may have to step on the brake pedal to slow down. In this case the cruise control is switched off.

Use the lever to resume the previously set speed.

Brake assist system (BAS)

Warning!

BAS cannot prevent the natural laws of physics from acting on the vehicle, nor can it increase braking efficiency beyond that afforded by the condition of the vehicle brakes and tires or the traction afforded. The BAS cannot prevent accidents, including those resulting from excessive speed in turns, following another vehicle too closely, or aquaplaning. Only a safe, attentive, and skillful driver can prevent accidents. The capabilities of a BAS equipped vehicle must never be exploited in a reckless or dangerous manner which could jeopardize the user's safety or the safety of others.

The BAS is designed to maximize the vehicle's braking capability during emergency braking maneuvers by having maximum power boost applied to the brakes more quickly in emergency braking conditions than might otherwise be afforded solely by the driver's braking style. This can help reduce braking distances over what ordinary driving and braking style might do. The BAS complements the antilock brake system (ABS).

Applying the brakes very quickly results in maximum BAS assistance.

To receive the benefit of the system you must apply continuous full braking power during the stopping sequence. Do not reduce brake pedal pressure.

Once the brake pedal is released, the BAS is deactivated.

The malfunction indicator lamp for the ESP is combined with the BAS malfunction indicator lamp.

The BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out with the engine running.

If the BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp comes on permanently while the engine is running, a malfunction has been detected in either system. As a result, it is possible that now only partial engine output will be available, and pressing the accelerator pedal will require more effort. If the BAS malfunctions, the brake system functions in the usual manner, but without BAS.

If the charging voltage falls below 10 volts, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on and the BAS is switched off. When the voltage is above this value again, the malfunction indicator lamp should go out and the BAS is operational.

With the ABS malfunctioning, the BAS and ESP are also switched off. Both malfunction indicator lamps come on with the engine running.

If the malfunction indicator lamp stays illuminated, have the BAS and ESP checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Antilock brake system (ABS)

Warning!

Do not pump the brake pedal, rather use firm, steady brake pedal pressure. Pumping the brake pedal defeats the purpose for ABS and significantly reduces braking effectiveness.

Important!

The ABS improves steering control of the vehicle during hard braking maneuvers.

The ABS prevents the wheels from locking up above a vehicle speed of approximately 5 mph (8 km/h) independent of road surface conditions.

At the instant one of the wheels is about to lock up, a slight pulsation can be felt in the brake pedal, indicating that the ABS is in the regulating mode. Keep firm and steady pressure on the brake pedal while experiencing the pulsation.

Continuous steady brake pedal pressure results in applying the advantages of the ABS, namely braking power and ability to steer the vehicle.

In the case of an emergency brake maneuver keep continuous full pressure on the brake pedal. In this manner only can the ABS be most effective.

On slippery road surfaces, the ABS will respond even with light brake pedal pressure because of the increased likelihood of locking wheels. The pulsating brake pedal can be an indication of hazardous road conditions and functions as a reminder to take extra care while driving.

ABS control

The ABS malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out with the engine running.

When the ABS malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on while the engine is running, it indicates that the ABS has detected a malfunction and has switched off. In this case, the brake system functions in the usual manner, but without antilock assistance.

For ABS malfunction indicator lamp, see page 186.

With the ABS malfunctioning, the BAS and ESP are also switched off. Both malfunction indicator lamps come on with the engine running.

If the charging voltage falls below 10 volts, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on and the ABS is switched off. When the voltage is above this value again, the malfunction indicator lamp should go out and the ABS is operational.

If the malfunction indicator lamp stays illuminated, have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Warning!

ABS cannot prevent the natural laws of physics from acting on the vehicle, nor can it increase braking or steering efficiency beyond that afforded by the condition of the vehicle brakes and tires or the traction afforded. The ABS cannot prevent accidents, including those resulting from excessive speed in turns, following another vehicle too closely, or aquaplaning. Only a safe, attentive, and skillful driver can prevent accidents. The capabilities of an ABS equipped vehicle must never be exploited in a reckless or dangerous manner which could jeopardize the user's safety or the safety of others.

Note:

To alert following vehicles to slippery road conditions you discover, operate your hazard warning flashers as appropriate.

Electronic stability program (ESP)

Warning!

ESP cannot prevent the natural laws of physics from acting on the vehicle, nor can it increase the traction afforded. The ESP cannot prevent accidents, including those resulting from excessive speed in turns, or aquaplaning. Only a safe, attentive, and skillful driver can prevent accidents. The capabilities of an ESP equipped vehicle must never be exploited in a reckless or dangerous manner which could jeopardize the user's safety or the safety of others.

The ESP enhances directional control and reduces driving wheel spin of the vehicle under various driving conditions.

Over/understeering of the vehicle is counteracted by applying brakes to the appropriate wheel to create a countervailing vehicle movement. Engine torque is also limited. The ESP warning lamp, located in the speedometer dial, starts to flash.

Important!

If the ESP warning lamp ⚠ flashes:

- During take-off apply as little throttle as possible.
- While driving ease up on the accelerator.
- Adapt your speed and driving to the prevailing road conditions.
- Do not switch off the ESP.

Caution!

If the vehicle is towed with the front axle raised (see page 224), the engine must be shut off (key in steering lock position 0 or 1). Otherwise, the ESP will immediately be engaged and will apply the rear wheel brakes.

Notes:

The malfunction indicator lamp for the ESP is combined with that of the BAS.

The yellow BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster and the yellow ESP warning lamp ⚠ in the speedometer dial come on with the key in steering lock position 2. They should go out with the engine running.

If the BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp comes on continuously with the engine running, a malfunction has been detected in either system. Only partial engine output will be available.

If the BAS malfunctions, the brake system functions in the usual manner, but without BAS.

Have the BAS or ESP checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

With the ABS malfunctioning, the ESP is also switched off.

Driving the vehicle with varied size tires will cause the wheels to rotate at different speeds, therefore the ESP may activate (yellow ESP warning lamp in speedometer dial comes on). For this reason, all wheels, including the spare wheel, must have the same tire size.

When testing the parking brake on a brake test dynamometer, the engine must be shut off. Otherwise, the ESP will immediately be engaged and will apply the rear wheel brakes.

In winter operation, the maximum effectiveness of the ESP is only achieved with Mercedes-Benz recommended M+S rated radial-ply tires and/or snow chains.

Synchronizing ESP

If the power supply was interrupted (battery disconnected or empty), the BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp may be illuminated with the engine running.

Turn steering wheel completely to the left and then to the right. The BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp should go out.

ESP Control switch



ESP control switch located in center console.

1 Press to switch ESP off

ESP warning lamp ⚠, located in speedometer dial, comes on.

2 Press to switch ESP on

ESP warning lamp ⚠, located in speedometer dial, goes out.

To improve the vehicle's traction when driving with snow chains, or starting off in deep snow, sand or gravel, switch off ESP by pressing the upper half (1) of the ESP switch. The ESP warning lamp ⚠, located in the speedometer dial, is continuously illuminated.

Warning!

When the ESP warning lamp is illuminated continuously, the ESP is switched off.

Adapt your speed and driving to the prevailing road conditions.

With the ESP system switched off, the engine torque reduction feature is cancelled. Therefore, the enhanced vehicle stability offered by ESP is unavailable.

Adapt your speed and driving to the prevailing road conditions.

A portion of the ESP system remains active, even with the switch in the OFF position.

If one drive wheel loses traction and begins to spin, the brake is applied until the wheel regains sufficient traction. The traction control engages at vehicle speeds up to approximately 24 mph (40 km/h), and switches off at 50 mph (80 km/h).

Note:

Avoid spinning of one drive wheel. This may cause serious damage to the drive train which is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

The ESP warning lamp, located in the speedometer dial, starts to flash at any vehicle speed as soon as the tires lose traction and the wheels begin to spin.

To return to the enhanced vehicle stability offered by ESP: press lower half of the switch (the ESP warning lamp in the speedometer dial goes out).

Warning!

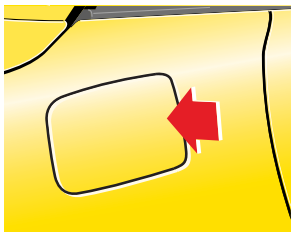
ESP should not be switched off during normal driving other than in circumstances described above. Disabling of the system will reduce vehicle stability in standard driving maneuvers.

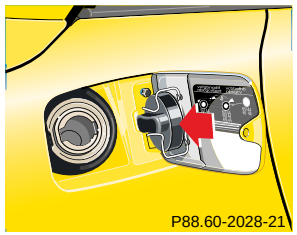
Important!

If the ESP warning lamp flashes:

- during take-off, apply as little throttle as possible.
- while driving, ease up on the accelerator.

What you should know at the gas station





Fuel supply

Warning!

Gasoline is highly flammable and poisonous. It burns violently and can cause serious injury. Whenever you are around gasoline, avoid inhaling fumes and skin contact, extinguish all smoking materials. Never allow sparks, flame or smoking materials near gasoline!

Open flap by pushing near front (arrow). Turn fuel cap to the left and hold on to it until possible pressure in tank has been released, then remove cap. Failure to remove slowly could result in personal injury.

See page 244 for notes on fuel filler flap, manual release.

Fuel

To prevent fuel vapors from escaping into open air, fully insert filler nozzle unit.

Only fill fuel tank until the filler nozzle unit cuts out – do not top up or overfill.

Warning!

Overfilling of fuel tank may result in creating pressure in the system which could cause a gas discharge such as the gas spraying back out upon removing the filler nozzle which could cause personal injury.

Leaving the engine running and the fuel cap open can cause the “CHECK ENGINE” lamp to illuminate.

Fuel tank capacity approximately 15.8 US gal (60.0 l). This includes approximately 2.1 US gal (8.0 l) reserve.

Use premium unleaded gasoline: Posted Octane Index 91 (Average of 96 RON/86 MON).

Engine oil

Engine oil level check, see page 197.

Fill quantity between upper and lower dipstick marking level: 2.1 US qt (2.0 l).

Recommended engine oils, see Approved Service Products sheet.

Coolant

For normal replenishing, use water (potable water quality).

For further information (e.g. anticorrosion/antifreeze), see page 270.

Spark plugs

Approved spark plugs, see page 264.

Tire pressure

For tire pressure, refer to tire pressure label inside the fuel filler flap.

Air conditioner

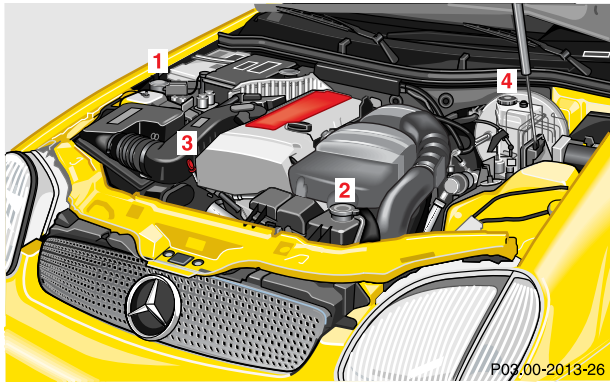
R-134a refrigerant and special PAG lubricant, see page 266.

Bulbs

High and low beams (Halogen): H7 (55 W),
fog lamps: H1 (55 W),
turn signal lamps, parking and standing lamps, front: 2357 NA (28.5/8.3 W/30/2.2 cp),
side marker lamps, front: 5 W/4 cp
stop lamps: 1154 21 W/32 cp,
backup lamps: 1154 21 W/32 cp,
turn signal lamps, rear: 1156 NA 21 W/24cp,
tail, parking and standing lamps: 67 5 W/4cp,
rear fog lamp, driver´s side: 1155 21 W/32 cp,
license plate lamps: C 5 W

Xenon bulb for low beam: D2R (35 W)

Check regularly and before a long trip



SLK 230 Kompressor shown

1 **Windshield washer and headlamp cleaning system**
For refilling reservoir, see page 199.

2 **Coolant level**
See “Adding coolant” on page 198.

3 **Engine oil level**
See “Checking engine oil level” on page 197 and “Engine oil level indicator” on page 79.

4 **Brake fluid**
See “Brake fluid” on page 268.

Opening hood, see page 194.

Vehicle lighting: Check function and cleanliness. For replacement of light bulbs, see “Exterior lamps” on page 230.

Exterior lamp switch, see page 81.

Instrument cluster display

Malfunction and indicator lamps in the instrument cluster 182
On-board diagnostic system 182
Check engine malfunction indicator lamp 182
Brake warning lamp 183
Brake pad wear indicator lamp 184
Seat belt nonusage warning lamp 184
Supplemental restraint system (SRS) indicator lamp 184
Fuel reserve and fuel cap placement warning 185
Electronic stability program (ESP) – warning lamp 185
BAS / ESP malfunction indicator lamp 185
ABS malfunction indicator lamp 186
Telescoping steering column warning lamp 186
Low engine coolant level warning lamp 187
Low windshield and headlamp washer system fluid level warning lamp 187
Low engine oil level warning lamp 188
Charge indicator lamp 188
Exterior lamp failure i ndicator lamp 189
Additional function indicator lamps (in the odometer display) 189
Malfunction and indicator lamp in the center console 190
AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp 190

Malfunction and indicator lamps in the instrument cluster

General information:

If a bulb in the instrument cluster fails to light up during the bulb self-check when turning the key in steering lock to position 2, have it checked and replaced if necessary.

On-board diagnostic system
Check engine malfunction indicator lamp



Engine malfunction indicator lamp. If the "CHECK ENGINE" malfunction indicator lamp comes on when the engine is running, it indicates a malfunction of the fuel management system, emission control system, systems which impact emissions, or the fuel cap is not closed tight (check the fuel cap). If the "CHECK ENGINE" lamp is illuminated continuously and the vehicle is driving normally, you may still drive the vehicle, however, in all cases, we recommend that you have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

If the "CHECK ENGINE" lamp comes on continuously and/or the vehicle is not driving normally, serious damage can occur to the emission system. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center immediately.

The Sequential Multiport Fuel Injection (SFI) control module monitors emission control components that either provide input signals to or receive output signals from the control module. Malfunctions resulting from interruptions or failure of any of these components are indicated by the "CHECK ENGINE" malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster and are simultaneously stored in the SFI control module.

If the "CHECK ENGINE" malfunction indicator lamp comes on, have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

With some exceptions, the control module switches off the "CHECK ENGINE" malfunction indicator lamp if the condition, causing the lamp to come on, no longer exists during three consecutive cycles. See also page 185 for fuel cap placement warning.

An on-board diagnostic connector is located in the passenger compartment near the engine hood release, allowing the accurate identification of system malfunctions through the readout of diagnostic trouble codes.

Brake warning lamp



Except Canada


Canada only

With the key in steering lock position 2, the brake warning lamp will come on. It should go out when the engine is running.

The brake warning lamp will come on:

- when there is insufficient brake fluid in the reservoir (engine running and parking brake released), or
- when the parking brake is set (engine running).

Warning!

Driving with the brake warning lamp illuminated can result in an accident. Have your brake system checked immediately if the brake warning lamp stays on. Don't add brake fluid before checking the brake system. Overfilling the brake fluid reservoir can result in spilling brake fluid on hot engine parts and the brake fluid catching fire. You can be seriously burned.

Note:

If you find that the minimum mark on the brake fluid reservoir is reached, have the brake system checked for brake pad thickness and leaks.

Brake pad wear indicator lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the brake pad wear indicator lamp comes on. It goes out when the engine is running.

If the indicator lamp lights up during braking, this indicates that the brake pads are worn down.

Have the brake system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Seat belt nonusage warning lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the seat belt warning lamp comes on, and a warning sounds for a short time if the driver's seat belt is not fastened.

After starting the engine, the seat belt warning lamp blinks for a brief period to remind the driver and passengers to fasten seat belts.

Supplemental restraint system (SRS) indicator lamp



The operational readiness of the airbag system is verified by the indicator lamp "SRS" in the instrument cluster when turning the key in steering lock to position 1 or 2. If no fault is detected, the lamp will go out after approximately 4 seconds; after the lamp goes out, the system continues to monitor the components and circuitry of the airbag system and will indicate a malfunction by coming on again.

Warning!

In the event a malfunction of the "SRS" is indicated as outlined above, the "SRS" may not be operational. For your safety, we strongly recommend that you visit an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center immediately to have the system checked; otherwise the "SRS" may not be activated when needed in an accident, which could result in serious or fatal injury, or it might deploy unexpectedly and unnecessarily which could also result in injury.

See page 54 for notes on airbags, see page 53 for belt tensioners and page 44 for infant and child seat restraint.

Fuel reserve and fuel cap placement warning

With the key in steering lock position 2, the fuel reserve warning lamp comes on. It should go out immediately when the engine is running.

If the warning lamp does not go out after starting the engine, or if it comes on while driving, it indicates that the fuel level is down to the reserve quantity of approximately 2.1 gal (8 liters).

The warning lamp blinks when the fuel cap is not closed, or a fuel system leak has been detected. Retighten cap and see if warning lamp goes out after restart and next OBD selfcheck.

If the warning lamp continues to blink after closing the fuel cap correctly, have the fuel system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Leaving the engine running and the fuel cap open can also cause the “CHECK ENGINE” lamp to illuminate, see also page 182.

Electronic stability program (ESP) — warning lamp



The yellow ESP warning lamp in the speedometer dial comes on with the key in steering lock position 2. It should go out with engine running.

See page 173 if the warning lamp lights up or flashes when the vehicle is moving.

BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp



The malfunction indicator lamp for the ESP is combined with that of the BAS.

The yellow BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on with the key in steering lock position 2. It should go out with the engine running.

If the BAS/ESP malfunction indicator lamp comes on continuously with the engine running, see page 169 and 173.

ABS malfunction indicator lamp



The ABS malfunction indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out with the engine running.

When the ABS malfunction indicator lamp symbol and warning in the instrument cluster come on while the engine is running, it indicates that the ABS has detected a malfunction and has switched off. In this case, the brake system functions in the usual manner, but without antilock assistance.

With the ABS malfunctioning, the BAS and ESP are also switched off. Both malfunction indicator lamps come on with the engine running.

If the charging voltage falls below 10 volts, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on and the ABS is switched off. When the voltage is above this value again, the malfunction indicator lamp should go out and the ABS is operational.

Have the system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

See page 171 for notes on antilock brake system (ABS).

Telescoping steering column warning lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on. It should go out when the engine is running.

If the indicator lamp does not go out after starting the engine, the adjustable steering column is not locked properly.

Important!

Do not drive the vehicle until you have properly locked the steering column.

Low engine coolant level warning lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the warning lamp comes on. It should go out when the engine is running.

If the warning lamp does not go out after starting the engine, or if it comes on while driving, then the coolant level has dropped below the required level. If no leaks are noticeable and the engine temperature does not increase, continue to drive to the nearest service station and have coolant added to the coolant system, see page 198.

The low engine coolant level warning light should not be ignored. Extended driving with the light illuminated may cause serious engine damage not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

In cases of major or frequent minor coolant loss, have the cooling system checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Note:

Do not drive without coolant in the cooling system. The engine will overheat causing major engine damage.

Monitor the coolant temperature gauge while driving.

Warning!

Do not spill antifreeze on hot engine parts. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol which may burn if it comes into contact with hot engine parts. You can be seriously burned.

Low windshield and headlamp washer system fluid level warning lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the warning lamp comes on. It should go out when the engine is running.

If the warning lamp does not go out after starting the engine, or if it comes on while driving, the level of the reservoir has dropped to approximately $^{1}/_{3}$ of the total volume. The reservoir should be refilled with MB Windshield Washer Concentrate “S” and water (or commercially available premixed windshield washer solvent/antifreeze, depending on ambient temperature - see page 199) at the next opportunity. The reservoir for the windshield and headlamp washer systems is located in the engine compartment.

Low engine oil level warning lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, the oil level warning lamp comes on. It should go out immediately when the engine is running.

If the warning lamp does not go out after starting the engine, or comes on with the engine running and at operating temperature, the engine oil level has dropped to approximately the minimum mark on the dipstick.

When this occurs, the warning lamp will first come on intermittently and then stay on if the oil level drops further.

If no leaks are noted, continue to drive to the nearest service station where the engine oil should be topped to the “full” mark on the dipstick with an approved oil.

The low engine oil level warning light should not be ignored. Extended driving with the light illuminated could result in serious engine damage that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

In addition to the warning lamp, the engine oil level should be periodically checked with the dipstick, for example during a fuel stop, or before a long trip, see page 197.

Charge indicator lamp



Should the charge indicator lamp fail to come on prior to starting when the key is in steering lock position 2 or should it fail to go out after starting or during operation, this indicates a malfunction which must be repaired immediately at an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

If the charge indicator lamp comes on, or a loss of power steering assistance is noticeable while the engine is running, this may indicate that one of the two poly-V-belts has broken. Should this condition occur, the poly-V-belt must be replaced before continuing to operate the vehicle. Otherwise, the engine may overheat due to an inoperative water pump which may result in damage to the engine.

Do not continue to drive the vehicle with the charge indicator lamp illuminated. Doing so could result in serious engine damage that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Exterior lamp failure indicator lamp



With the key in steering lock position 2, an indicator lamp comes on. It should go out when the engine is running.

If the warning lamp does not go out after starting the engine, or if it comes on while driving, this lamp indicates a failure in the parking lamp, taillamp, stop lamp, or low beam headlamp.

If an exterior lamp fails, the indicator lamp will come on only when that lamp is switched on.

If a brake lamp fails, the lamp failure indicator will come on when applying the brake and stays on until the engine is turned off.

Note:

If additional lighting equipment is installed (e.g. auxiliary headlamps etc.) be certain to connect into the fuse before the failure indicator monitoring unit in order to avoid damaging the system.

Additional function indicator lamps (in the odometer display)



FSS indicator (distance, Service A), see page 77.



FSS indicator (distance, Service B) see page 77.



FSS indicator (days, Service A), see page 77.



FSS indicator (days, Service B), see page 77.



Start lock-out malfunction, see page 23.

Malfunction and indicator lamp in the center console

AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp

The AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp will light up for approximately 6 seconds when you turn the key in steering lock to position 1 or 2.

It does not light up if there is a fault in the system.

The AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp stays lit as long as a BabySmart™ child seat is properly installed on the front passenger seat. It indicates that the front passenger airbag is switched off.

See page 51 for BabySmart™ airbag and its deactivation system.

Warning!

The BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system will ONLY work with a special child seat designed to operate with it. It will not work with child seats which are not BabySmart™ compatible.

Never place anything between seat cushion and child seat (e.g. pillow), since it reduces the effectiveness of the deactivation system.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation of special child seats.

The passenger front airbag will not deploy only if the AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp remains illuminated.

Please be sure to check the indicator every time you use the special system child seat. Should the light go out while the restraint is installed, please check installation. If the light remains out, do not use the BabySmart™ restraint to transport children on the passenger seat until the system has been repaired.

Practical hints

First aid kit 192
Stowing items in the vehicle 192
Fuses 192
Hood 194
Automatic transmission fluid level 196
Checking engine oil level 197
Coolant level 198
Adding coolant 198
Windshield and headlamp washer system 199
Air pump, spare wheel, vehicle tools, storage compartment (except SLK 32 AMG) 200
Vehicle jack (except SLK 32 AMG) 201
Storage box, TIREFIT-Kit, air pump, Vehicle tools (SLK 32 AMG only) 202
Wheels 203
Tire replacement 203
Rotating wheels 204
Spare wheel 205
Spare wheel bolts 206
Changing wheels 207
Inflating the collapsible spare tire 212
Storing spare wheel in wheel well 213
TIREFIT 214
Tire inflation pressure 219
Battery 220
Jump starting 222
Towing the vehicle 224
Transmission selector lever, manually unlocking 229
Exterior lamps 230
Headlamp assembly 231
Taillamp assemblies 234
Changing batteries in the remote control 236
Synchronizing remote control 237
Raising hardtop manually 238
Replacing wiper blade insert 243
Antenna 244
Manual release of fuel filler flap 244

First aid kit

The first aid kit is located in the left side panel of the trunk.

Stowing items in the vehicle

Warning!

To help avoid personal injury during a collision or sudden maneuver, exercise care when stowing things. Put luggage or cargo in the trunk if possible.

Fuses

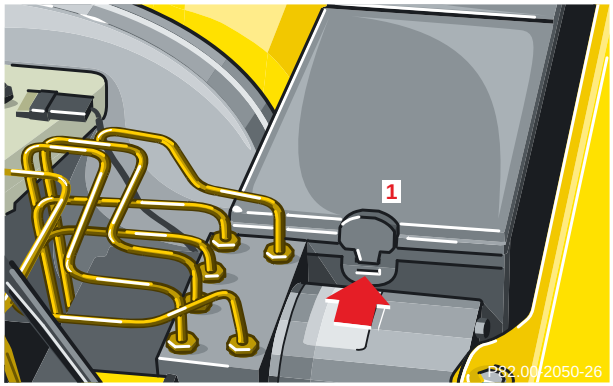
Before replacing a blown fuse, determine the cause of the short circuit.

Spare fuses are supplied inside the main and auxiliary fuse boxes. Observe amperage and color of fuse.

A special fuse puller is supplied with the vehicle tools.

Always use a new fuse for replacement. Never attempt to repair or bridge a blown fuse.

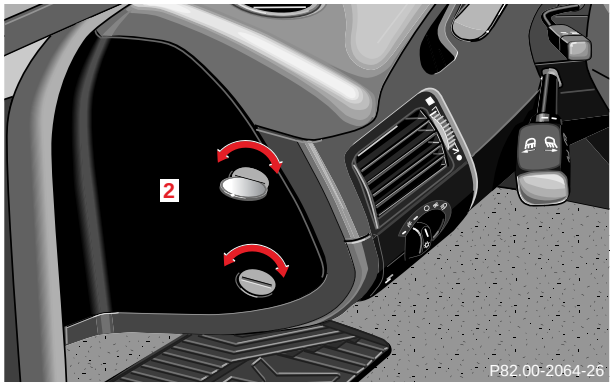
A fuse chart can be found inside the corresponding fuse box cover.



1 Main fuse box in engine compartment (contains fuses for interior consumers)

To gain access to the main fuse box (1), release clamp (arrow), lift the fuse box cover up and remove it.

To close the main fuse box, engage back end of cover and let front end snap into place.



2 Auxiliary fuse box to left of exterior lamp switch (fuses for lights)

To gain access, turn locks (arrows) using a coin, and remove cover.

Hood

Warning!

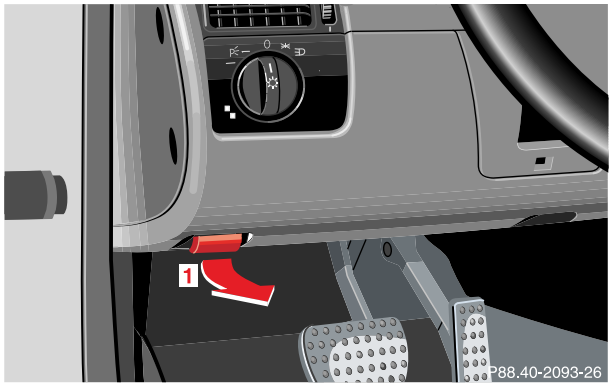
To help prevent personal injury, stay clear of moving parts when the hood is open and the engine is running. Be sure the hood is properly closed before driving. When closing hood, use extreme caution not to catch hands or fingers.

The radiator fan may continue to run for approximately 30 seconds or even restart after the engine has been turned off. Stay clear from fan blades.

The engine is equipped with a transistorized ignition system. Because of the high voltage it is dangerous to touch any components (ignition coils, spark plug sockets, diagnostic socket) of the ignition system

- **with the engine running,**
- **while starting the engine,**
- **if ignition is “on” and the engine is turned manually.**

If you see flames, steam or smoke coming from the engine compartment, or if the coolant temperature gauge indicates that the engine is overheated, do not open the hood. Move away from vehicle and do not open the hood until the engine has cooled. If necessary, call a fire department.

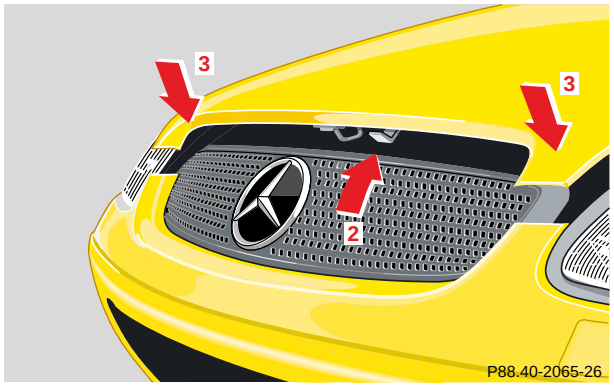


To open:

To unlock the hood, pull release lever (1) under the driver's side of the instrument panel.

Caution!

To avoid damage to the windshield wipers or hood, open the hood only with wipers in the parked position.



Pull handle (2) up and open hood.

Lower hood and let it drop into lock from a height of approximately 1 ft. (30 cm), assisting with hands placed flat on edges of hood (3).

To avoid hood damage, please make sure that hood is fully closed. If not, repeat closing procedure. Do not push down on hood to attempt to fully close it.

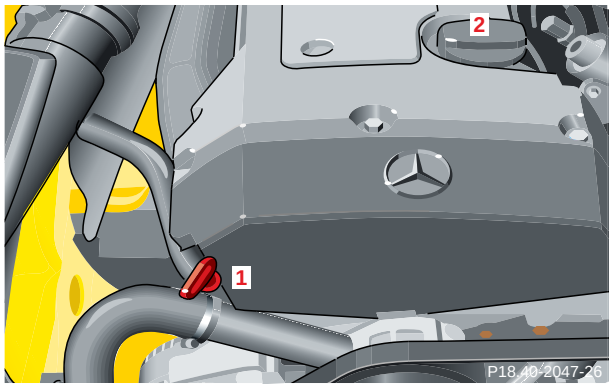
Automatic transmission fluid level

The transmission has a permanent fill of automatic transmission fluid.

Regular automatic transmission fluid level checks and changes are not required. For this reason the dipstick is omitted.

If you notice fluid loss or gear shifting malfunctions, have your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center check the transmission fluid level.

Checking engine oil level



1 Oil dipstick

2 Oil filler cap

To check the engine oil level, park vehicle on level ground, with engine at normal operational temperature.

Check engine oil level approximately 5 minutes after stopping the engine, allowing for the oil to return to the oil pan.

Wipe oil dipstick clean prior to checking the engine oil level. Fully insert dipstick in tube, and remove after three seconds to obtain accurate reading.



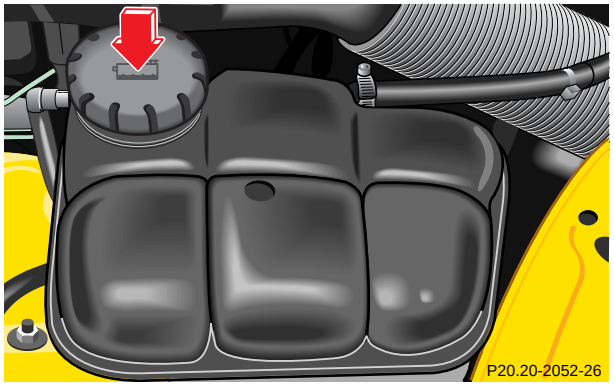
Oil level must be between the lower (min) and upper (max) mark of the dipstick.

Fill quantity between upper and lower dipstick marking level is approximately 2.1 US qt (2.0l).

Do not overfill the engine.
Excessive oil must be drained or siphoned. It could cause engine damage not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

For low engine oil level warning, see page 188.

Coolant level



To check the coolant level, the vehicle must be parked on level ground and the engine stopped.

Check coolant level only when coolant is cold.

Adding coolant

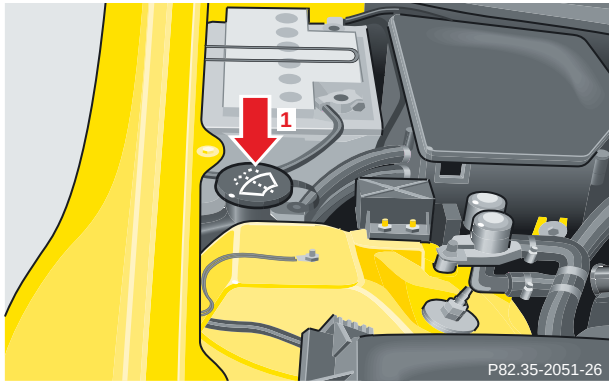
If coolant has to be added, a 50/50 mixture of water and MB anticorrosion/antifreeze should be added. Refill coolant until the float in the reservoir reaches and closes the filler opening. Anticorrosion/antifreeze, see page 270. The drain plugs for the cooling system are located on the right side of the engine block and at the bottom of the radiator.

Warning!

In order to avoid possible serious burns or injury:

- **Use extreme caution when opening the hood if there are any signs of steam or coolant leaking from the cooling system, or if the coolant temperature gauge indicates that the engine is overheated.**
- **Do not remove pressure cap on coolant reservoir if engine temperature is above 194°F (90°C). Allow engine to cool down before removing cap. The coolant reservoir contains hot fluid and is under pressure.**
- **Using a rag, slowly open cap approximately $^{1}/_{2}$ turn to relieve excess pressure. If opened immediately, scalding hot fluid and steam will be blown out under pressure.**
- **Do not spill antifreeze on hot engine parts. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol which may burn if it comes into contact with hot engine parts.**

Windshield and headlamp washer system



1 Windshield and headlamp washer fluid reservoir

Capacity approximately 7.4 US qt (7.0 l)

The reservoir should be refilled with MB Windshield Washer Concentrate and water (or concentrate commercially available premixed windshield washer solvent/antifreeze, depending on ambient temperatures).

Windshield and headlamp washer fluid mixing ratio

For temperatures above freezing:

MB Windshield Washer Concentrate “S” and water.

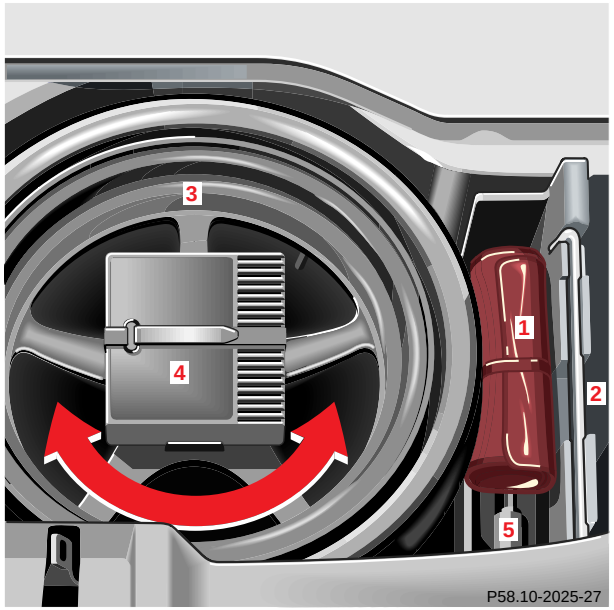
1 part “S” to 100 parts water
(40 ml “S” to 1 gallon water)

For temperature below freezing:

MB Windshield Washer Concentrate “S” and commercially available premixed windshield washer solvent/antifreeze.

1 part “S” to 100 parts solvent
(40 ml “S” to 1 gallon solvent).

Air pump, spare wheel, vehicle tools, storage compartment (except SLK 32 AMG)



1 Vehicle tools

2 Wheel bolt wrench

3 Spare wheel and wheel bolts

4 Air pump (electric. 12 V), Bolts for spare wheel rim

5 Vehicle jack

Raise roof, open luggage cover, and move aside trunk floor.

To remove air pump:

Unbuckle strap and remove air pump from holder.

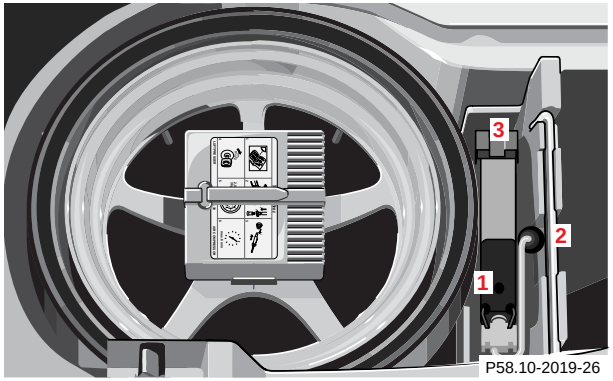
To remove spare wheel:

First remove air pump, then turn pump holder counterclockwise and remove spare wheel.

To store spare wheel:

Place spare wheel in wheel well and secure it with pump holder. Turn pump holder clockwise to its stop. Reinstall air pump.

Vehicle jack (except SLK 32 AMG)



1 Jack base

2 Handle

3 Pin

See illustration for proper storage of jack.

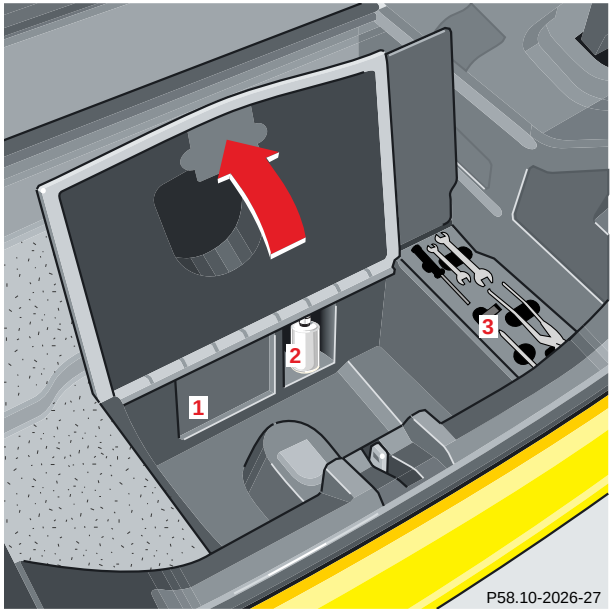
Before storing the jack in its holder in the spare wheel well, lower jack arm and fold in handle and pin.

Warning!

The jack is designed exclusively for jacking up the vehicle at the jack tubes built into either side of the vehicle. To help avoid personal injury, use the jack only to lift the vehicle during a wheel change. Never get beneath the vehicle while it is supported by the jack. Keep hands and feet away from the area under the lifted vehicle. Always firmly set parking brake and block wheels before raising vehicle with jack.

Do not disengage parking brake while the vehicle is raised. Be certain that the jack is always vertical when in use, especially on hills. Always try to use the jack on level surface. Be sure that the jack arm is fully inserted in the jack tube. Always lower the vehicle onto sufficient capacity jackstands before working under the vehicle.

Storage box, TIREFIT-Kit, air pump, vehicle tools (SLK 32 AMG only)



The storage box is located below the trunk floor.

1 Electric Air pump

2 TIREFIT-Kit

3 Vehicle tool kit, Jack

Lift trunk floor cover.

Open storage box cover.

Notes:

The vehicle tool kit and tire wrench are located under the rug on the right side.

To use TIREFIT and air pump, see page 214

Wheels

Replace rims or tires with the same designation, manufacturer and type as shown on the original part. See your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center for further information.

See your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center for information on tested and recommended rims and tires for summer and winter operation. They can also offer advice concerning tire service and purchase.

Tire replacement

Tires should be replaced in sets. Rims and tires must be of the correct size and type. For dimensions, see page 261.

We recommend that you break in new tires for approximately 60 miles (100 km) at moderate speed.

It is imperative that the wheel mounting bolts be fastened to a tightening torque of 80 ft.lb. (110 Nm) whenever wheels are mounted.

For rim and tire specifications, see page 261.

Warning!

Worn, old tires can cause accidents. If the tire tread is badly worn, or if the tires have sustained damage, replace them.

When replacing rims, use only genuine Mercedes-Benz wheel bolts specified for the particular rim type. Failure to do so can result in the bolts loosening and possibly an accident.

Rotating wheels

Wheel rotation applies only when winter tires are mounted on all four wheels.

The wheels can be rotated according to the degree of tire wear while retaining the same direction of travel.

Rotating, however, should be carried out as recommended by the tire manufacturer, before the characteristic tire wear pattern (shoulder wear on front wheels and tread center wear on rear wheels) becomes visible, as otherwise the driving properties deteriorate.

Important!

Unidirectional tires must always be mounted with arrow on tire sidewall pointing in direction of vehicle forward movement.

Notes:

Thoroughly clean the inner side of the wheels any time you rotate the wheels or wash the vehicle underside.

The use of retread tires is not recommended. Retread tires may adversely affect the handling characteristics and safety of the vehicle.

Dented or bent rims can cause tire pressure loss and damage to the tire beads. For this reason, check rims for damage at regular intervals. The rim flanges must be checked for wear before a tire is mounted. Remove burrs, if any.

Check and ensure proper tire inflation pressure after rotating the wheels. For tire inflation pressure see page 219.

Spare wheel

Important!

SLK 230 Kompressor:
The spare wheel rim size is 4 $^{1}/_{2}$ B x 15 H 2 with inflatable, collapsible tire, size 165-15 89 P.

SLK 320:
The spare wheel rim size is 4 $^{1}/_{2}$ B x 16 H 2 with inflatable, collapsible tire, size 165/70-16 92 P.

You should inflate the spare tire using the supplied air pump.

Note:

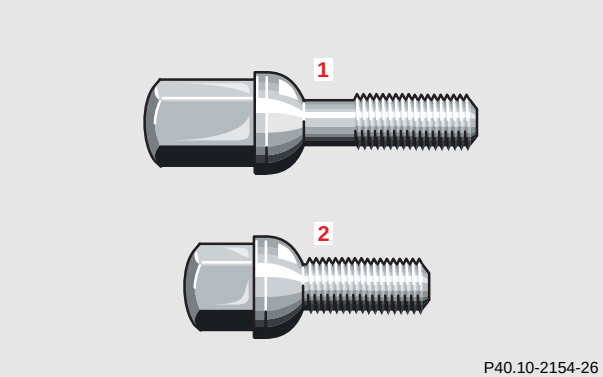
The model SLK 32 AMG is equipped with TIREFIT, see page 214.

In the case of a flat tire, you may temporarily use the spare wheel, while observing the following restrictions:

- Do not exceed vehicle speed of 50 mph (80 km/h).
- Drive to the nearest tire repair facility to have the flat tire repaired or replaced as appropriate.
- Do not operate vehicle with more than one collapsible spare wheel/tire mounted.

For additional information, see page 261.

Spare wheel bolts



1 Wheel bolt for wheel rim size 7 J x 16 H 2
and 8 J x 16 H 2
Wheel bolt for AMG wheel rim size 7 $^{1}/_{2}$ J x 17 H 2
and 8 $^{1}/_{2}$ J x 17 H 2
Wheel bolt for spare wheel rim size 4 $^{1}/_{2}$ B x 16 H 2

2 Wheel bolt for spare wheel rim size 4 $^{1}/_{2}$ B x 15 H 2
(located with tire air pump)

Note:

Wheel bolts (2) must be used when mounting spare wheel rim size 4 $^{1}/_{2}$ B x 15 H 2.

Warning!

Be sure to use the original length wheel bolts when remounting the original wheel after it has been repaired.

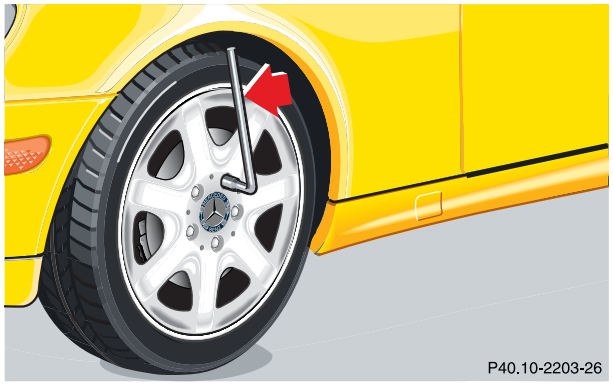
Changing wheels

The jack is designed exclusively for jacking up the vehicle at the jack tubes built into either side of the vehicle. To help avoid personal injury, use the jack only to lift the vehicle during a wheel change. Never get beneath the vehicle while it is supported by the jack. Keep hands and feet away from the area under the lifted vehicle. Always firmly set parking brake and block wheels before raising vehicle with jack.

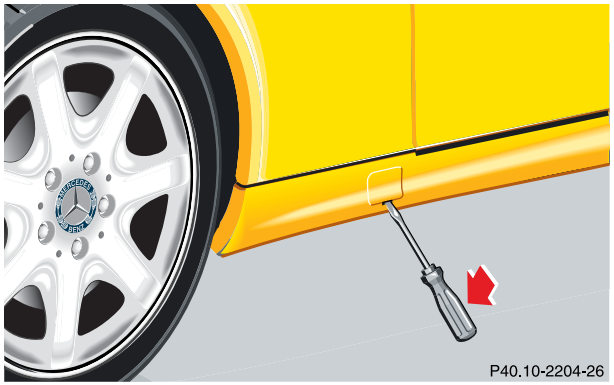
Do not disengage parking brake while the vehicle is raised. Be certain that the jack is always vertical when in use, especially on hills. Always try to use the jack on level surface. Be sure that the jack arm is fully inserted in the jack tube. Always lower the vehicle onto sufficient capacity jackstands before working under the vehicle.

Move vehicle to a level area which is a safe distance from the roadway.

1. Set parking brake and turn on hazard warning flasher.
2. Move selector lever to position “P” and turn off engine (manual transmission to 1st or reverse gear).
3. Prevent vehicle from rolling away by blocking wheels with wheel chocks (not supplied with vehicle) or sizable wood block or stone. When changing a wheel on a hill, place chocks on the downhill side blocking both wheels of the other axle. On a level road, place one chock in front of and one behind the wheel that is diagonally opposite to the wheel being changed.

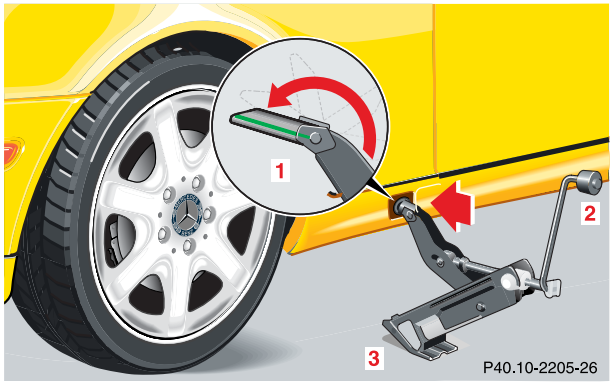


4. Using the wrench, loosen but do not yet remove the wheel bolts.

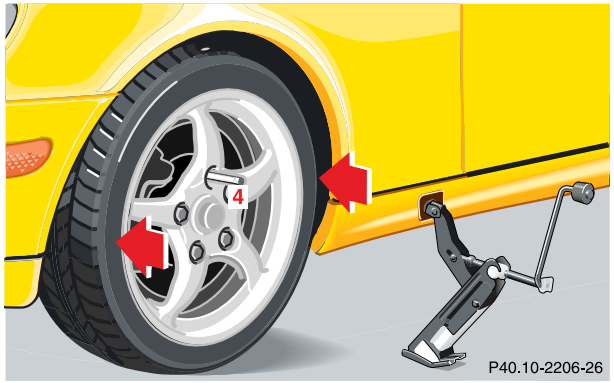


5. Remove the protective cover from the jack support tube opening by inserting the screwdriver (supplied in the tool kit) in the opening and prying it out.

 The tube openings are located directly behind the front wheel housings and in front of the rear wheel housings.



6. Holding the jack, unfold pin (1) and handle (2). Insert pin fully into the tube hole up to the stop. Crank handle clockwise until jack base (3) meets the ground. Place jack on firm ground. Position the jack so that it is always vertical (plump-line) as seen from the side (see arrow), even if the vehicle is parked on an incline.
7. Jack up the vehicle until the wheel is clear of the ground. Never start engine while vehicle is raised.



8. Unscrew upper-most wheel bolt and screw in alignment pin (4) supplied in the tool kit. Remove the remaining bolts. Keep bolt threads protected from dirt and sand.
9. Remove wheel. Grip wheel from the sides. Keep hands from beneath the wheels.

Important!

For ease of handling and proper unfolding of tire during its inflation when installing spare wheel with collapsible tire, first mount the spare wheel, then inflate the tire.

10. Clean contact surfaces of wheel and wheel hub. Install wheel on wheel hub. Insert proper wheel bolts and tighten them snugly.

 Unscrew the alignment pin (4) to install the last wheel bolt.

11. Inflate collapsible spare tire. (See next page for detailed instructions).

Important!

When installing spare wheel with collapsible tire, make certain to use the correct wheel bolts, supplied in the vehicle tool kit.

To avoid paint damage, place wheel flat against hub and hold it there while installing first wheel bolt.

12. Lower vehicle. Remove jack and insert jack tube cover.

Warning!

Always replace wheel bolts that are damaged or rusted.

Never apply oil or grease to wheel bolts.

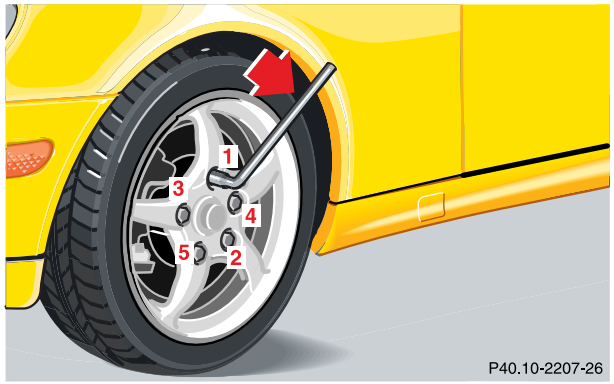
Damaged wheel hub threads should be repaired immediately.

Incorrect mounting bolts or improperly tightened mounting bolts can cause the wheel to come off. This could cause an accident. Be sure to use the correct mounting bolts.

Notes:

Before storing the jack, it should be fully collapsed, with pin and handle folded in.

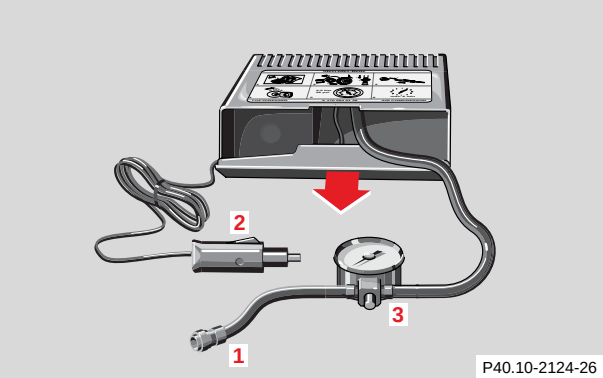
The removed road wheel can be stored under the luggage cover in a protective cover supplied with vehicle. The collapsible spare wheel should be returned to the wheel well.



13. Using the wrench, tighten the five bolts evenly, following the sequence illustrated, until all bolts are tight. Observe a tightening torque of 80 ft.lb. (110 Nm).

14. Ensure proper tire pressure.

Inflating the collapsible spare tire
(SLK 230 Kompressor and SLK 320 only)



The air pump is located inside the wheel well in the trunk.

1 Filler hose

2 Electrical plug

3 Pressure gauge with vent screw

1. Remove air pump from storage compartment inside trunk.
2. Open lid and pull out air hose with pressure gauge and electrical plug.

 Observe instructions on air pump label.

Warning!

To prevent possible injury when unscrewing air pump filler hose from tire valve after inflating the tire, use a rag since the tire valve could be hot.

3. Unscrew tire valve cap from spare wheel tire valve.
4. Screw filler hose onto tire valve.
5. Plug air pump electrical plug into vehicle cigar lighter.
6. To switch on air pump, turn key in steering lock to position 1.

 Important!

 Do not start engine.

7. Operate air pump (approximately 5 minutes) until pressure gauge displays 36 psi (2.5 bar).
8. To switch off air pump, turn key in steering lock to position 0.
9. Unscrew filler hose from tire. Reinstall tire valve cap.

Note:

Excessive tire air pressure should be released using the vent screw.

Storing spare wheel in wheel well

Deflate spare tire:

1. Unscrew valve stem removal tool, which is a part of the valve cap, from tire valve.
2. Using the valve stem removal tool, open tire valve slightly by turning the tire valve insert counterclockwise to release air pressure.
3. When the tire air pressure has been released, remove tire valve insert (protect it from dirt and sand) using the previously removed tire valve cap.
4. Once all air is out of the tire, and the tire has collapsed to its original shape, reinstall the tire valve insert and valve cap.

Place spare wheel in wheel well and secure it with air pump holder. Turn pump holder clockwise to its stop.

TIREFIT
(SLK 32 AMG only)

Small punctures, particularly those in the tread can be sealed with TIREFIT.

Foreign objects (e.g. screws or nails) should not be removed from the tire.

TIREFIT can be used in ambient temperatures down to approx. -4 °F (-20 °C).

Warning!

Cuts or punctures larger than approx. 0.16 in (4 mm), tire damage caused by driving with extremely low tire pressure or on a flat tire, or a damaged wheel can pose a hazard while driving. TIREFIT should not be used in such circumstances.

Do not drive the vehicle under such circumstances.

Contact your nearest Mercedes-Benz Center for assistance.

Take care not to allow the contents of TIREFIT to come in contact with hair, eyes or clothing. TIREFIT is harmful if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through the skin - causes skin, eye and respiratory irritation.

Any contact with eyes or skin should be flushed immediately with plenty of water.

If clothing comes in contact with TIREFIT, change clothing as soon as possible.

In case of allergic reaction or rash, consult a physician immediately.

Keep TIREFIT out of reach of children.
If swallowed, rinse mouth immediately with plenty of water and drink plenty of water.

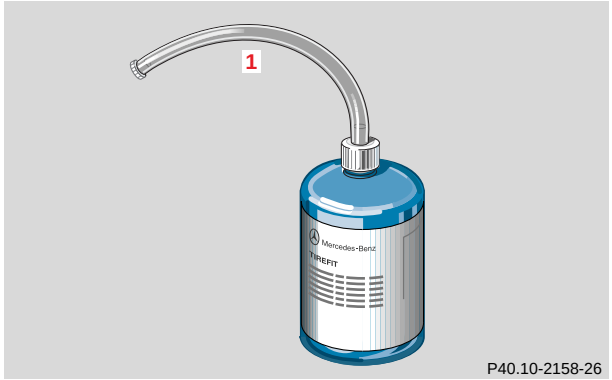
Do not induce vomiting!

Consult a physician immediately.

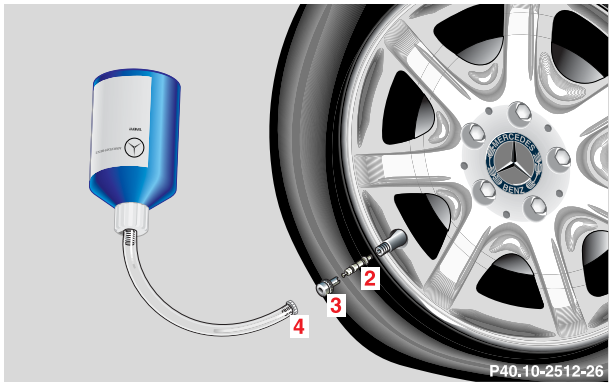
Keep away from open flame or heat source.

Sealing tire with TIREFIT

1. Set parking brake and turn on hazard warning flasher.
2. Move selector lever to position “P” and turn off engine.
3. Take TIREFIT out of storage box, see page 202.



4. Shake contents of TIREFIT container. Screw hose (1) on to TIREFIT container. TIREFIT is now ready for use.

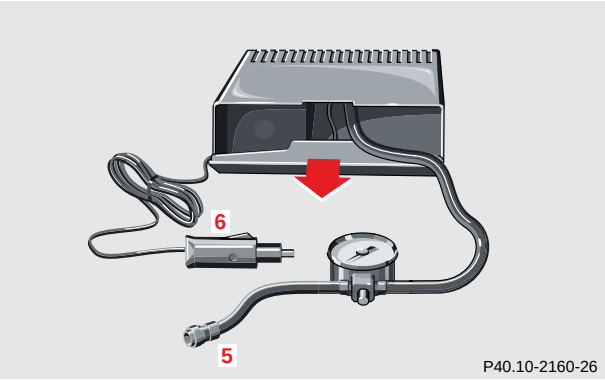


5. Unscrew valve tire cap. Remove tire valve (2) using valve stem removal tool (3). Do not place tire valve in sand or dirt.
6. Remove plug (4) from end of hose (1) and push hose (1) onto valve stem.
7. Hold container upside down (hose down) and squeeze entire contents of container into tire.
8. Pull hose (1) off and screw tire valve (2) using valve stem tool (3) into the valve stem.

Note:

A spare tire valve is stored with the valve stem tool.

9. Install plug (4) onto end of hose (1).



10. The air pump is located inside the storage box, see page 202. Observe instructions on air pump label.

11. Remove air pump from storage box inside trunk.

12. Pull out air hose with pressure gauge (5) and electrical plug (6).

13. Screw filler hose (5) onto tire valve.

14. Plug air pump electrical plug (6) into vehicle cigar lighter.

15. To switch on air pump, turn key in steering lock to position 1.

Note:

After 5 minutes, pressure gauge must display 26 psi (1.8 bar). Do not exceed the maximum pressure of 36 psi (2.5 bar)!

If pressure is not attained, drive vehicle approx. 394 in (10 m), so that the sealing material is evenly distributed inside the tire. Reconnect air pump and inflate tire.

Note:

Do not operate electric air pump longer that 6 minutes without interruption. Air pump could overheat! After air pump has cooled off, operate air pump again.

16. To switch off air pump, turn key in steering lock to position 0.

Warning!

If a tire pressure of 26 psi (1.8 bar) is not attained, tire is too severely damaged for TIREFIT to provide a reliable tire repair.

In this case TIREFIT can not properly seal the tire.

Do not drive the vehicle.

Contact the nearest Mercedes-Benz Center or call Roadside Assistance.

17. Reinstall valve tire cap.
18. Drive vehicle to distribute the sealant evenly inside the tire.

Warning!

Do not exceed vehicle speed of 50 mph (80 km/h). A TIREFIT repair is not designed to operate at higher speeds.

Vehicle handling characteristics may change.

After driving vehicle for an initial 10 minutes, check tire pressure. If tire pressure has fallen below 20 psi (1.3 bar) do not continue to drive the vehicle.

If tire pressure is at least 20 psi (1.3 bar), inflate tire to correct pressure (see label on fuel filler flap), and drive vehicle to nearest tire repair facility to have tire repaired or replaced.

Recommended duration of use: 300 miles (500 km) at 50 mph (80 km/h) with the recommended tire pressure.

Notes:

If TIREFIT is liquid, clean water and a damp cloth will remove the material from the vehicle or tire and wheel components. Once TIREFIT sealing material had dried, it can easily be peeled off and properly discarded.

Replace TIREFIT every 4 years.

Tire inflation pressure

A table (see fuel filler flap) lists the tire inflation pressures specified for Mercedes-Benz recommended tires as well as for the varying operating conditions.

Important!

Tire pressure changes by approximately 1.5 psi (0.1 bar) per 18°F (10°C) of air temperature change. Keep this in mind when checking tire pressure inside a garage - especially in the winter.

Example:

If garage temperature = approximately +68°F (+20°C) and ambient temperature = approximately +32°F (0°C) then the adjusted air pressure = specified air pressure +3psi (+0.2 bar).

Tire pressures listed for light loads are minimum values offering high driving comfort. Increased inflation pressures for heavy loads produce favorable handling characteristics with lighter loads and are perfectly permissible. The ride of the vehicle, however, will become somewhat harder.

Tire temperature and pressure increase with the vehicle speed. Tire pressure should therefore only be checked and corrected on cold tires. Correct tire pressure in warm tires only if pressure has dropped below the pressure listed in the table and the respective operating conditions are taken into consideration.

An underinflated tire due to a slow leak (e.g. due to a nail in the tire) may cause damage such as tread separation, bulging etc.. Regular tire pressure checks at intervals of no more than 14 days are therefore essential.

If a tire constantly loses air, it should be inspected for damage.

The spare tire should be checked periodically for condition. Spare tire will age and become worn over time even if never used, and thus should be inspected and replaced when necessary.

Warning!

Do not overinflate tires. Overinflating tires can result in sudden deflation (blowout) because they are more likely to become punctured or damaged by road debris, potholes etc.. Follow recommended inflation pressures.

Do not overload the tires by exceeding the specified vehicle capacity weight (as indicated by the label on the driver's door latch post). Overloading the tires can overheat them, possibly causing a blowout.

Battery

Warning!

Failure to follow these instructions can result in severe injury or death.

Never lean over batteries while connecting, you might get injured.

Battery fluid contains sulfuric acid. Do not allow this fluid to come in contact with eyes, skin or clothing. In case it does, immediately flush affected area with water and seek medical help.

A battery will also produce hydrogen gas, which is flammable and explosive. Keep flames or sparks away from battery, avoid improper connection of jumper cables, smoking etc..

Important!

Battery replacement information:

The maintenance-free battery is located in the engine compartment.

The service life of the battery is dependent on its condition of charge. The battery should always be kept sufficiently charged, in order to last an optimum length of time.

Therefore, we strongly recommend that you have the battery charge checked frequently, and corrected if necessary, especially if you use the vehicle less than approximately 200 miles (300 km) per month, mostly for short distance trips, or if it is not used for long periods of time.

Only charge a battery with a battery charger after the battery has been disconnected from the vehicle's electrical circuit.

Always disconnect the battery negative lead first and connect last.

When removing and connecting the battery, always make sure that all electrical consumers are off and the key is in steering lock position 0. The battery must always be securely installed when the vehicle is in operation. During removal and installation always protect the disconnected battery positive (+) terminal with the cover attached to the battery.

While the engine is running the battery terminal clamps must not be loosened or detached, otherwise the generator and other electronic components will be damaged.

Battery recycling

Batteries contain materials that can harm the environment with improper disposal.

Large 12 Volt storage batteries contain lead.

Recycling of batteries is the preferred method of disposal.

Many states require sellers of batteries to accept old batteries for recycling.

Jump starting

Warning!

Failure to follow these directions will cause damage to the electronic components, and can lead to a battery explosion and severe injury or death.

Never lean over batteries while connecting or jump starting, you might get injured.

Battery fluid contains sulfuric acid. Do not allow this fluid to come in contact with eyes, skin or clothing. In case it does, immediately flush affected area with water, and seek medical help if necessary.

A battery will also produce hydrogen gas, which is flammable and very explosive. Keep flames or sparks away from battery, avoid improper connection of jumper cables, smoking etc..

Read all instructions before proceeding.

Important!

A discharged battery can freeze at approximately +14°F (−10°C). In that case, it must be thawed out before jumper cables are used. Attempting to jump start a frozen battery can result in exploding, causing personal injury.

Jumper cable specifications:

- Minimum cable cross-section of 25 mm^2 or approximately 2 AWG
- Maximum length of 11.5 ft. (3.5 m).

If the battery is discharged, the engine should be started with jumper cables and the (12 V) battery of another vehicle.

Only use 12 V battery to jump start your vehicle. Jump starting with more powerful battery could damage the vehicle's electrical systems, which will not be covered by the Mercedes-benz Limited Warranty.

The battery is located in the engine compartment.

Proceed as follows:

1. Position the vehicle with the charged battery so that the jumper cables will reach, but never let the vehicles touch. Make sure the jumper cables do not have loose or missing insulation.
2. On both vehicles:
 - Turn off engine and all lights and accessories, except hazard warning flashers or work lights.
 - Apply parking brake and shift selector lever to position “P” (manual transmission to Neutral).

Important!

3. Clamp one end of the first jumper cable to the positive (+) terminal of the discharged battery and the other end to the positive (+) terminal of the charged battery. Make sure the cable clamps do not touch any other metal parts.
4. Clamp one end of the second jumper cable to the grounded negative (−) terminal of the charged battery and the final connection to a grounded heavy metal bracket in the engine compartment or on the engine of the disabled vehicle.

Important!

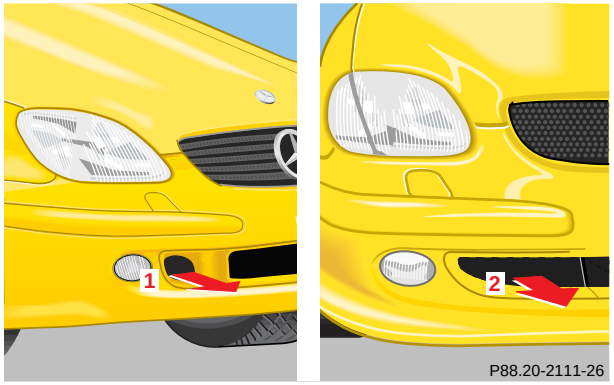
5. Start engine of the vehicle with the charged battery and run at high idle. Make sure the cables are not on or near pulleys, fans, or other parts that will move when the engine is started. Allow the discharged battery to charge for a few minutes. Start engine of the disabled vehicle in the usual manner.
6. After the engine has started, remove jumper cables by exactly reversing the above installation sequence, starting with the last connection made first. When removing each clamp, make sure that it does not touch any other metal while the other end is still attached.

Note:

If engine does not run after several unsuccessful starting attempts, have it checked at the nearest authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Excessive unburned fuel may damage the catalytic converter.

Towing the vehicle



SLK 320
except Sport Package

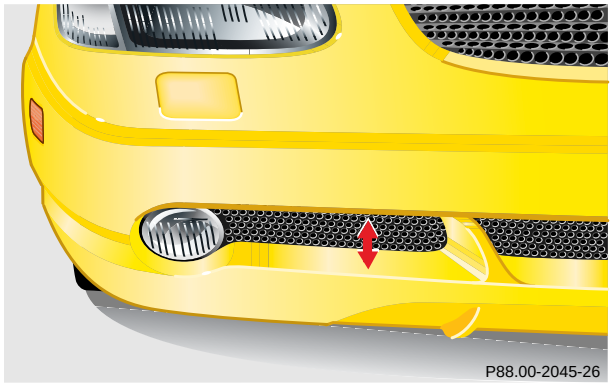
SLK 230 Kompressor
except Sport Package

The rear towing eye is located at the right, below the bumper. The front towing eye is located on the passenger-side behind the grille in the bumper panel.

Grille removal for SLK 320 except Sport Package version:
Hold left and right end of grille (1) and pull out.

Grille removal for SLK 230 except Sport Package version:
Hold grille (2), fold it down and pull out firmly.

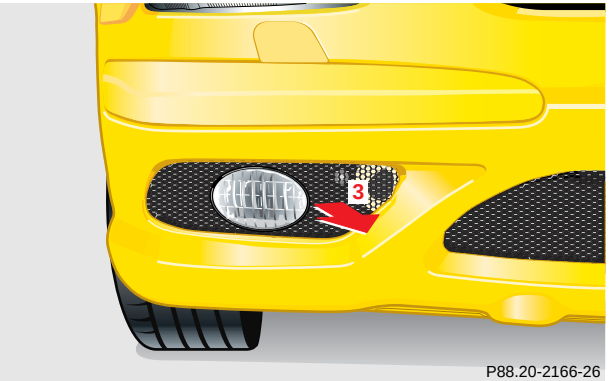
Grille installation for all except Sport Package version:
Position grille and press in securely.



Sport Package

Grille removal for Sport Package version:
Pull on top end of grille simultaneously pushing apron (arrow) up.

Grille installation for Sport Package:
Position bottom end of grille and press in securely simultaneously pushing apron (arrow) up.



SLK 32 AMG

The threaded hole for the towing eye bolt is located on the passenger-side behind the grille in the bumper panel (3). The towing eye bolt is stored with the jack in the trunk.

Installing towing eye:
Grille removal for SLK 32 AMG. Hold grille (arrow) and pull forward to remove. Screw towing eye bolt into its stop and tighten with lug wrench.

Removing towing eye bolt:
Unscrew towing eye bolt and store in trunk. Fit grille into bumper and snap into place.

We recommend that the vehicle be transported using flat bed equipment. This method is preferable to other types of towing.

Do not tow with sling-type equipment. Front towing with sling-type equipment over bumpy roads will damage radiator and supports. Rear towing with sling-type equipment over bumpy roads will damage the lower edge of the front bumper cover.

Use wheel lift, dolly, or flat bed equipment, with key in steering lock turned to position 0.

Towing restrictions for vehicles with automatic transmission: The vehicle may be towed with all wheels on the ground and the selector lever in position “N” for distances up to 30 miles (50 km) and at a speed not to exceed 30 mph (50 km/h). The key must be in steering lock position 2.

To be certain to avoid a possibility of damage to the transmission, however, we recommend the drive shaft be disconnected at the rear axle drive flange for any towing beyond a short tow to a nearby garage.

Warning!

Prior to towing the vehicle with all wheels on the ground make certain that the electronic key is in steering lock position 2.

With the engine not running, there is no power assistance for the braking and steering systems. In this case, it is important to keep in mind that a considerably higher degree of effort in necessary to brake and steer the vehicle.

Important!

When towing the vehicle, please, note the following:

With the automatic central locking activated and the key in steering lock position 2, the vehicle doors lock if the left front wheel as well as the right rear wheel are turning at vehicle speeds of approximately 9 mph (15 km/h) or more.

To prevent the vehicle door locks from locking, deactivate the automatic central locking.

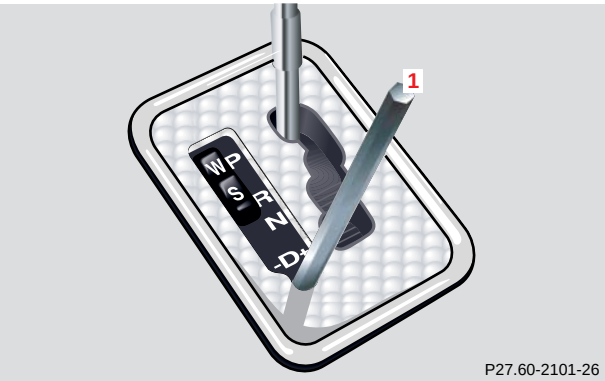
Note:

To signal turns while being towed with hazard warning flasher in use, turn key in steering lock to position 2 and activate combination switch for left or right turn signal in usual manner – only the selected turn signal will operate. Upon canceling the turn signal, the hazard warning flasher will operate again.

Caution!

If the vehicle is towed with the front axle raised, the engine must be shut off (key in steering lock position 0 or 1). Otherwise, the ESP will immediately be engaged and will apply the rear wheel brakes. Switch off the tow-away alarm as well as the automatic central locking, see page 37 and page 31.

Transmission selector lever, manually unlocking



In the case of power failure the transmission selector lever can be manually unlocked, e.g. when towing the vehicle.

To do so, insert a pin (1), e.g. ball point pen, into the covered opening below the position “D” of the shift pattern. While pushing the pin down, move selector lever from position “P”.

After removal of the pin from the opening, the cover will not close fully. Only after moving the selector lever to positions “D+” and “D−” does the cover return to its closed position.

Exterior lamps

Replacing bulbs

Warning!

Halogen lamps contain pressurized gas. A bulb can explode if you:

- **touch or move it when hot,**
- **drop the bulb,**
- **scratch the bulb.**

Wear eye and hand protection.

Because of high voltage in Xenon lamps, it is dangerous to replace the bulb or repair the Lamp and its components. We recommend that you have such work done by a qualified technician.

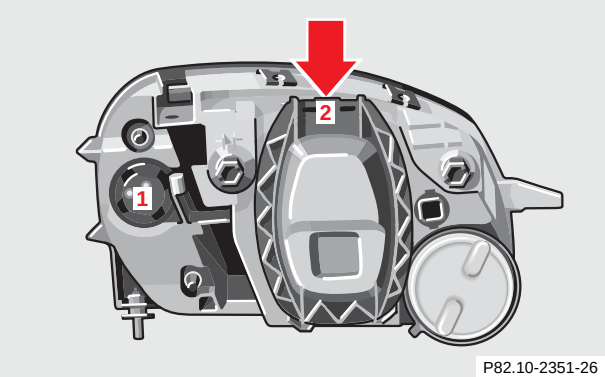
Notes:

To prevent a possible electrical short circuit, switch off lamp prior to replacing a bulb.

When replacing bulbs, install only 12 volt bulbs with the specified watt rating.

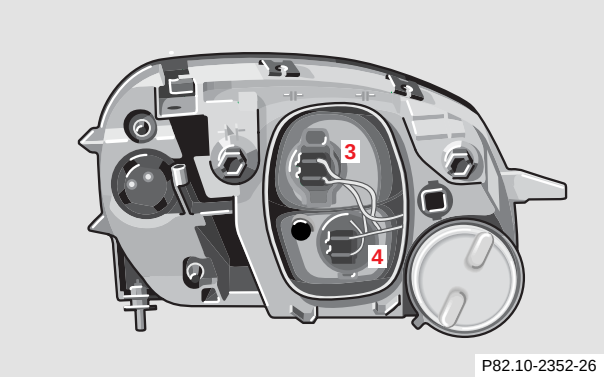
When replacing halogen bulbs do not touch glass portion of bulb with bare hands. Use plain paper or a clean cloth.

Headlamp assembly



1 Bulb socket for turn signal, parking and standing lamp

2 Headlamp cover with locking tab



3 Electrical connector for low beam headlamp bulb

4 Electrical connector for high beam headlamp bulb

Bulbs for high and low beam
H 7 (55 W)

Open hood.

Push down tab at top end of cover (2) and remove. Pull off electrical connector (3) or (4). Unhook clamping ring and pull out bulb together with clamping ring. Remove bulb.

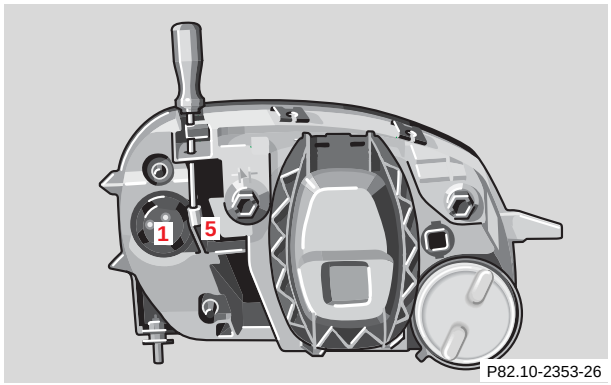
Insert new bulb (seating properly in cutouts of bulb socket), mount clamping ring. Reinstall and push electrical connector on securely. Reinstall cover (2).

Xenon bulb for low beam (optional)
D2R (35W)

Warning!

Because of high voltage in Xenon lamps, it is dangerous to replace the bulb or repair the lamp and its components. We recommend that you have such work done by a qualified technician.

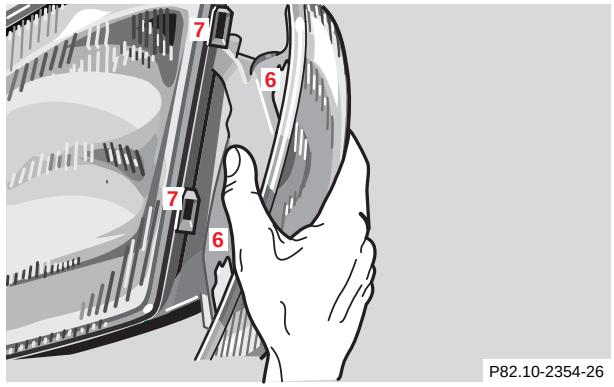
Parking, standing and turn signal lamp
(2357 NA [28.5/8.3W/30/2.2 cp] bulb)



Open hood.

Insert screwdriver (supplied in vehicle tool kit) into hole for release lever (5). Move screwdriver sideways toward radiator and then rearward. Remove the released lamp assembly.

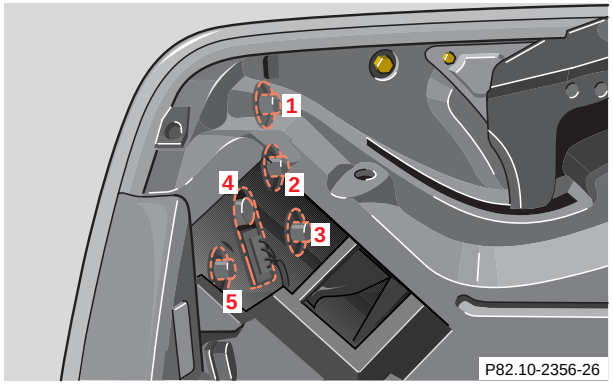
Twist bulb socket (1) counterclockwise and pull out. Push bulb into socket, turn counterclockwise and remove.



Insert new bulb in socket, push in and twist clockwise. Reinstall bulb socket.

To reinstall lamp assembly, slide its tabs (6) into guides (7), continue to push lamp in until it engages in lock.

Taillamp assemblies



1 Stop Lamp (1154 21W/32 cp bulb)

2 Turn signal lamp (1156 NA 21 W/24 cp bulb)

3 Tail, parking and standing lamp (67 5W/4 cp bulb)

4 Backup lamp (1154 21 W/32 cp bulb)

5 Driver's side:
Rear fog lamp (1155 21W/32 cp bulb)

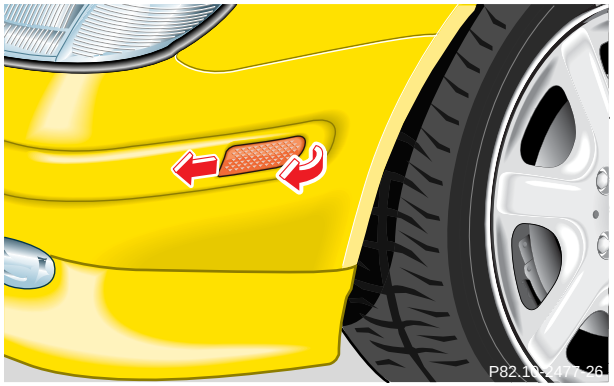
Open trunk lid:

Remove cover in right side panel, and first aid kit in left side panel.

Twist bulb socket counterclockwise and pull out. Push bulb into socket, turn counterclockwise and remove.

Insert new bulb in socket, push in and twist clockwise. Reinstall bulb socket, and close cover.

Side marker lamp, front
(5 W/4 cp bulb)



Carefully slide lamp towards front (arrow), and remove back end first from bumper.

Turn bulb socket with bulb counterclockwise and pull out. Push bulb into socket, turn counterclockwise and remove.

Insert new bulb in socket, push in and twist clockwise. Insert bulb socket with bulb in lamp and twist clockwise.

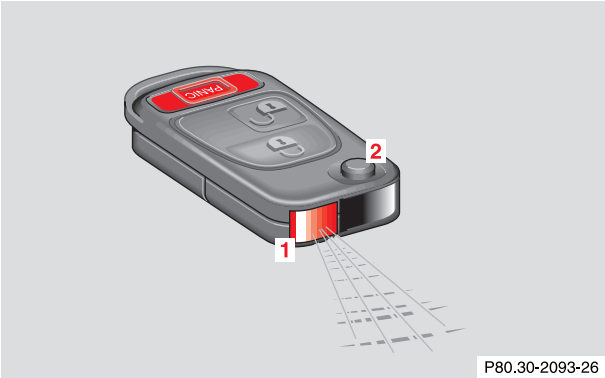
To reinstall lamp, set back end of lamp into bumper and let front end snap into place.

High mounted stop lamp,
Additional turn signals on the exterior mirror

The high mounted stop lamp (3rd brake lamp) and the additional turn signals on the exterior mirrors are equipped with LEDs.

Have the system checked at an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center if a malfunction occurs.

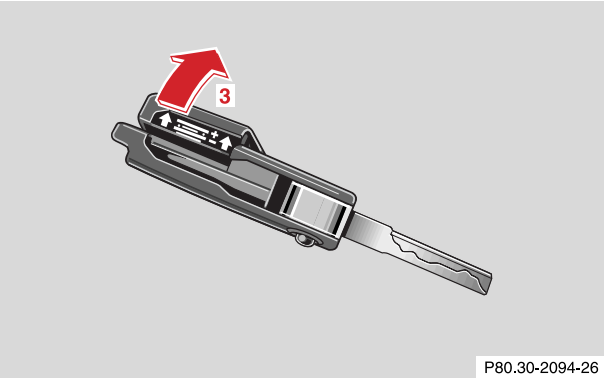
Changing batteries in the remote control



Checking batteries

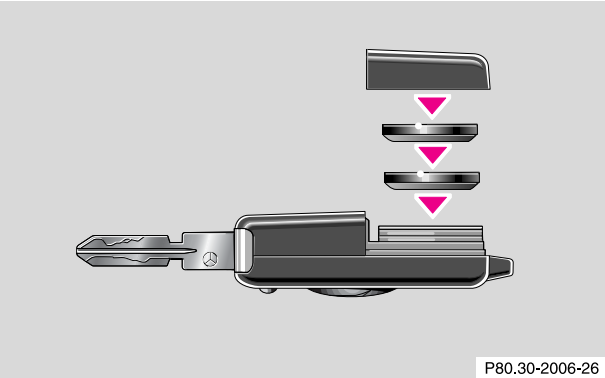
If the transmit button or is pressed longer than 1 second, the battery check lamp in the transmitter eye (1) lights up briefly – indicating that the batteries are in order.

Change batteries if the battery check lamp does not light up briefly.



Changing batteries

Unfold master key from holder by pressing key release button (2). Pull off battery cover (3).



Change batteries, inserting new ones with plus (+) side facing up.

Press battery cover onto housing until locked in place.

Important!

Batteries contain materials that can harm the environment if disposed of improperly. Recycling of batteries is the preferred method of disposal. For disposal, please follow manufacturer‘s recommendation on battery package.

Replacement Battery:
Lithium, type CR 2025 or equivalent.

Synchronizing remote control

The system may have to be resynchronized, if the transmitter is without voltage for several minutes.

To synchronize system, aim transmitter eye at vehicle and briefly press transmit button or twice. Within approximately 30 seconds insert key in steering lock and turn it to position 2.

The remote control should once again be operational.

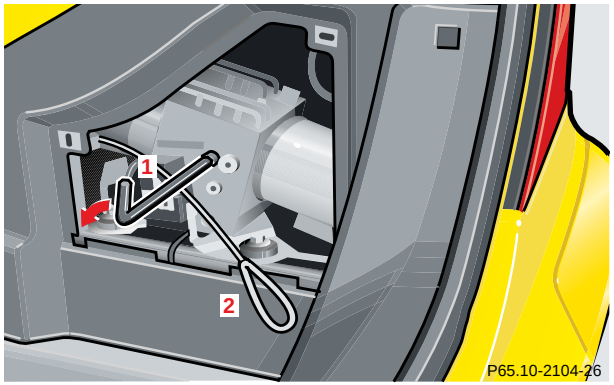
Raising hardtop manually

In case of malfunction, the hardtop can also be raised manually. This procedure should be performed with great care by 2 persons.

Prior to raising the hardtop manually, make certain that all points listed under Retractable Hardtop (see page 122) were observed.

A hex-socket wrench, located on the inside of the right-hand cover in the trunk, is required for this job.

1. Open doors or lower windows.
2. For safety reasons, remove key from steering lock.
3. Open trunk.



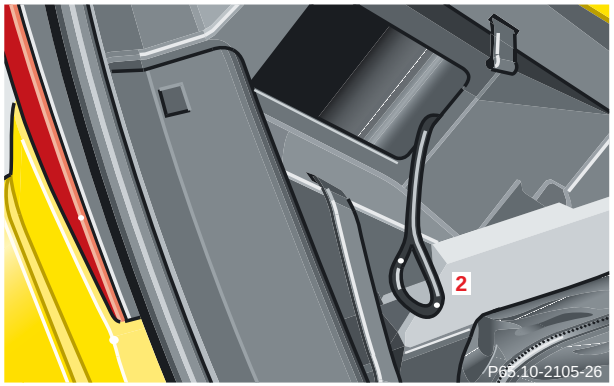
4. Open right-hand cover in trunk and remove hex-socket wrench.

 Using wrench turn screw (1) of the hydraulic pump counterclockwise to its stop.

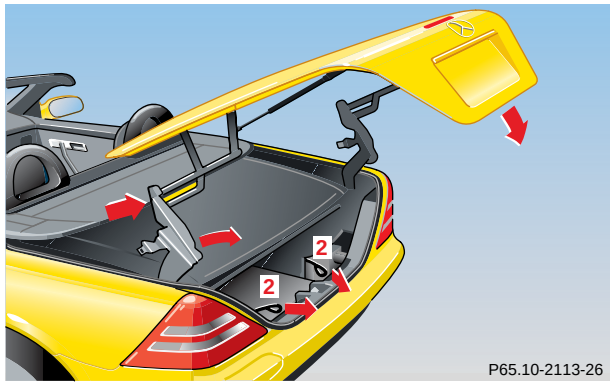
 Keep wrench with you for later use in closing and locking the hardtop.

Important!

Do not operate the hardtop switch with screw (1) in the opened position, otherwise the hydraulic pump could be damaged.



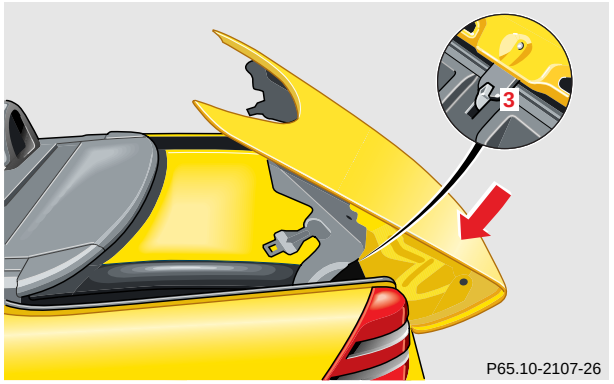
5. Expose left and right side cables (2). The cables are located behind the left and right side trunk trim panel covers.



6. First person:
 Briefly pull on handles of cables (2) to release trunk lid hinge locks.

 Second person:
 Pull trunk lid rearward by pulling on trunk lid hinge.

7. Close trunk lid, then reopen it by holding each side of its front end, and swing it completely to the rear (arrows).

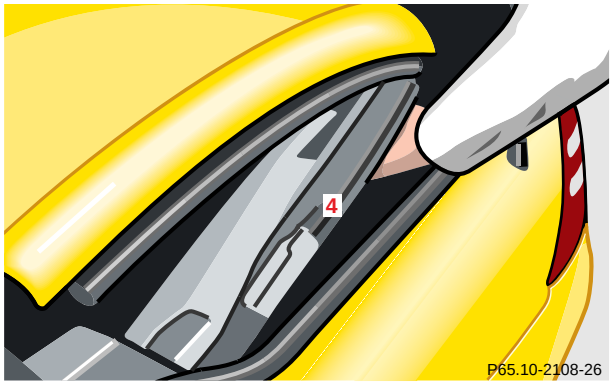


8. Carefully bring back end of trunk lid down (arrow) until lock (3) audibly engages.

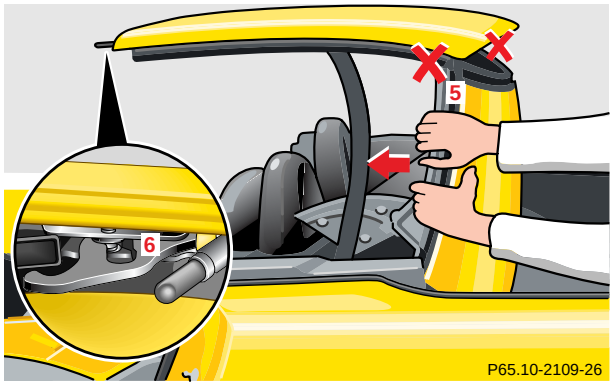
 Pull trunk lid rearward to its stop.

Warning!

Do not place your hands near the upper windshield area, trunk lid, or between roof panels while the hardtop is being raised and locked. Serious personal injury may occur.



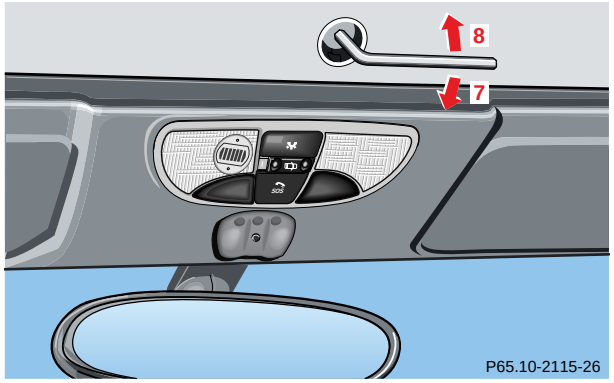
9. Place hands from below on lower section of hardtop (4), and pull hardtop out of its storage compartment.



10. With rear section of roof (5) in a vertical position, place hands on rear section of roof as shown, and guide pins (6) of roof front section into windshield frame.

Warning!

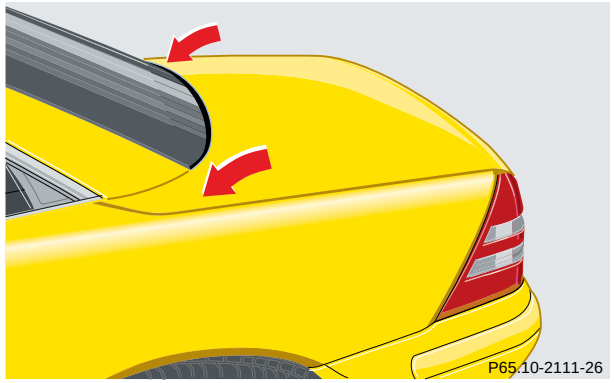
Do not place your hands in areas marked X. Serious personal injury may occur.



11. Remove cap from headliner.

 To close hardtop:
 Insert hex-socket wrench and turn clockwise (7) to its stop.

 To lock hardtop:
 Turn wrench counterclockwise (8) to its stop.



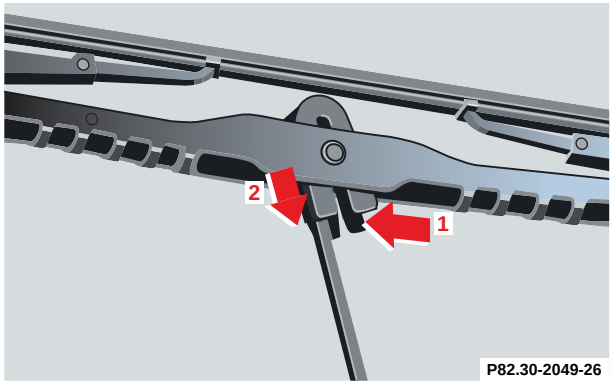
12. Close trunk lid by placing flat hands near edges (arrows).

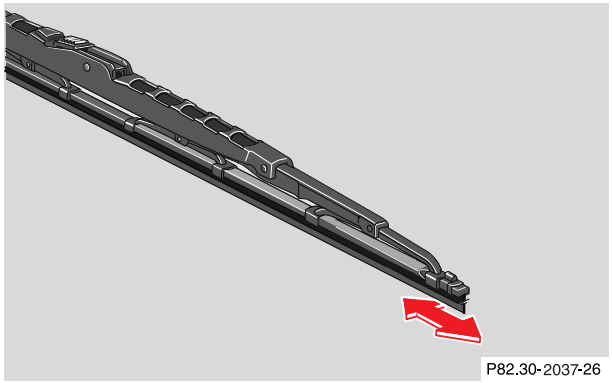
Notes:

The rear quarter windows cannot be closed.

Have the hardtop operation checked at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center as soon as possible.

Replacing wiper blade insert





For safety reasons, remove key from steering lock before replacing a wiper blade, otherwise the wiper motor can suddenly turn on and cause injury.

Removal:

Fold wiper arm forward. Tilt wiper blade downward. Press safety tab (1), push wiper blade downward (2) and remove.

Place wiper blade on firm support. Press down both tabs with a screw driver and slide (direction of arrow) the wiper blade insert out of the retainer claws.

Installation:

Slide (direction of arrow) wiper blade insert into retainer claws until tabs are engaged.

Slide wiper blade into end of wiper arm until it locks in place.

The wiper with air spoiler should be mounted on the driver's side.

Notes:

Do not open engine hood with wiper arms folded forward.

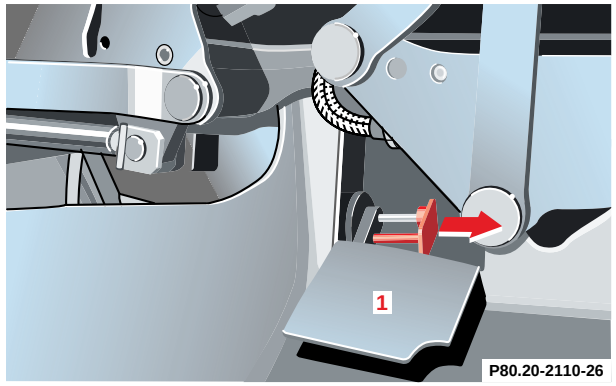
Do not allow the wiper arms to contact the windshield glass without a wiper blade inserted. The glass may be scratched or broken.

Make certain that the wiper blade is properly installed. An improperly installed wiper blade may cause windshield damage.

Antenna

To prevent damage or diminished radio reception after reinstallation, the non-retractable antenna should not be removed. The antenna is automatic car-wash safe.

Manual release of fuel filler flap



The manual release knob is located behind cover (1) in the right slide trunk panel.

In case the central locking system does not release the fuel filler flap, pull the manual release knob (arrow) while simultaneously opening the fuel filler flap.

Vehicle care

Cleaning and care of the vehicle 246
Power washer 247
Paintwork, painted body components 247
Tar stains 247
Engine cleaning 248
Vehicle washing 248
Headlamps, taillamps, turn signal lenses 249
Window cleaning 249
Rear window cleaning 249
Wiper blades 250
Light alloy wheels 250
Instrument cluster 251
Steering wheel and gear selector lever 251
Cup holder 251
Hard plastic trim items 251
Plastic and rubber parts 251
Headliner and shelf behind roll bars 252
Upholstery 252
Seat belts 252

Cleaning and care of the vehicle

Warning!

Many cleaning products can be hazardous. Some are poisonous, others are flammable. Always follow the instructions on the particular container. Always open your vehicle's doors or windows when cleaning the inside.

Never use fluids or solvents that are not designed for cleaning your vehicle.

In operation, your vehicle is subjected to varying external influences which, if gone unchecked, can attack the paintwork as well as the underbody and cause lasting damage.

Such damage is caused not only by extreme and varying climatic conditions, but also by air polution, road salt, tar, gravel and stone chipping. Grease and oil, fuel, coolant, brake fluid, bird droppings, insects, tree resins etc. should be removed immediately to avoid paint damage. Frequent washing reduces and/or eliminates the aggressiveness and potency of the above adverse influences.

More frequent washings are necessary to deal with unfavorable conditions; for example, near the ocean, in industrial areas (smoke, exhaust emissions), or during winter operation.

You should check your vehicle from time to time for stone chipping or other damage. Any damage should be repaired as soon as possible to prevent the start of corrosion.

In doing so, do not neglect the underside of the vehicle. A prerequisite for a thorough check is a washing of the underbody followed by a thorough inspection. Damaged areas need to be reundercoated.

Your vehicle has been treated at the factory with a wax-base rustproofing in the body cavities which will last for the lifetime of the vehicle. Post-production treatment is neither necessary nor recommended by Mercedes-Benz because of the possibility of incompatibility between materials used in the production process and others applied later.

We have selected car-care products and compiled recommendations which are specially matched to our vehicles and which always reflect the latest technology. You can obtain Mercedes-Benz approved car-care products at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Scratches, corrosive deposits, corrosion or damage due to negligent or incorrect care cannot always be removed or repaired with the car-care products recommended here. In such cases it is best to seek aid at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

The following topics deal with the cleaning and care of your vehicle and give important “how-to” information as well as references to Mercedes-Benz approved car-care products.

Additional information can be found in the booklet titled “Vehicle Car Guide”.

Power washer

When using a power washer for cleaning the vehicle always observe manufacturers’ operating instructions.

Caution!

Never use a round nozzle to power wash tires. The intense jet of water can result in damage to the tire.

Always replace a damaged tire.

Always keep the jet of water moving across the surface. Do not aim directly at electrical parts, electrical connectors, seals, or other rubber parts.

Paintwork, painted body components

Mercedes-Benz approved Paint Care should be applied when water drops on the paint surface do not “bead up”, normally in 3 to 5 months, depending on climate and washing detergent used.

Mercedes-Benz approved Paint Cleaner should be applied if paint surface shows signs of dirt embedding (i.e. loss of gloss).

Do not apply any of these products or wax if your vehicle is parked in the sun or if the hood is still hot.

Use the appropriate MB-Touch-Up Stick for quick and provisional repairs of minor paint damage (i.e. chips from stones, vehicle doors etc.).

Tar stains

Quickly remove tar stains before they dry and become more difficult to remove. A tar remover is recommended.

Engine cleaning

Prior to cleaning the engine compartment make sure to protect electrical components and connectors from the intrusion of water and cleaning agents.

Corrosion protection, such as MB Anticorrosion Wax should be applied to the engine compartment after every engine cleaning. Before applying, all control linkage bushings and joints should be lubricated. The poly-V-belt and all pulleys should be protected from any wax.

Vehicle washing

Do not use hot water or wash your vehicle in direct sunlight. Use only a mild car wash detergent, such as Mercedes-Benz approved Car Shampoo.

Thoroughly spray the vehicle with a diffused jet of water. Direct only a very weak spray towards the ventilation intake. Use plenty of water and rinse the sponge and chamois frequently.

Rinse with clear water and thoroughly wipe dry with a chamois. Do not allow cleaning agents to dry on the finish.

Due to the width of the vehicle, prior to running the vehicle through an automatic car wash, fold back the outside mirrors to prevent them from getting damaged.

In the winter, thoroughly remove all traces of road salt as soon as possible.

When washing the underbody, do not forget to clean the inner sides of the wheels.

Headlamps, taillamps, turn signal lenses

Use a mild car wash detergent, such as Mercedes-Benz approved Car Shampoo, with plenty of water.

To prevent scratches, never apply strong force and use only a soft, non-scratchy cloth when cleaning the lenses. Do not attempt to wipe dirty lenses with a dry cloth or sponge.

Window cleaning

Use a window cleaning solution on all glass surfaces. An automotive glass cleaner is recommended.

Note:

For safety reasons, switch off wipers and remove electronic key from steering lock before cleaning the windshield, otherwise the wiper motor can suddenly turn on and cause injury.

Rear window cleaning

The corner flaps of the rear shelf partially cover the rear window. This prevents the window from being fully cleaned with the hardtop closed.

Important!

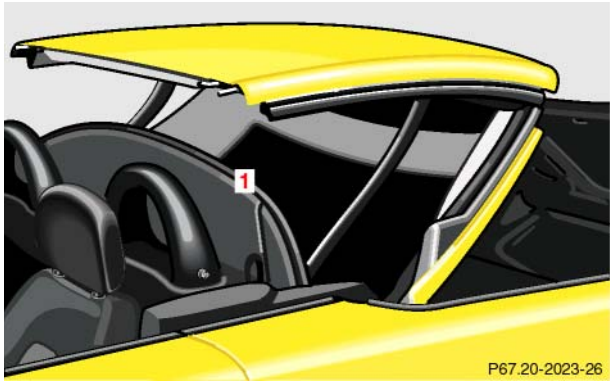
Do not manually move corner flaps of rear shelf. Doing so will result in damage to the roof folding mechanism that is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Warning!

If a warning sounds and the indicator lamp in the hardtop switch blinks, immediately stop cleaning and move back from window to prevent possible injury.

The hardtop is lowered into its storage compartment.

Renewed momentary operation of hardtop switch extends the time by another 7 minutes.



Prior to cleaning the inside of the rear window, operate hardtop via the switch until rear shelf (1) is in a vertical position. Leave key in steering lock position 2.

The roof will remain in this position for approximately 7 minutes, sufficient time for cleaning the inside of the rear window.

Wiper blades

Clean the wiper blade inserts with a clean cloth and detergent solution.

Note:

For safety reasons, remove electronic key from starter switch before cleaning the wiper blades, otherwise the wiper motor can suddenly turn on and cause injury.

Light alloy wheels

Mercedes-Benz approved Wheel Care should be used for regular cleaning of the light alloy wheels.

If possible, clean wheels once a week with Mercedes-Benz approved Wheel Care, using a soft bristle brush and a strong spray of water.

Follow instructions on container.

Note:

Use only acid-free cleaning materials. The acid could lead to corrosion.

Instrument cluster

Use a gentle dishwashing detergent or mild detergent for delicate fabrics as a washing solution. Wipe with a cloth moistened in lukewarm solution. Do not use scouring agents.

Steering wheel and gear selector lever

Wipe with a damp cloth and dry thoroughly or clean with Mercedes-Benz approved Leather Care.

Cup holder

Use a gentle dishwashing detergent or mild detergent for delicate fabrics as a washing solution. Wipe with a cloth moistened in lukewarm solution. Do not use scouring agents.

Hard plastic trim items

Pour Mercedes-Benz approved Interior Care onto soft lint-free cloth and apply with light pressure.

Plastic and rubber parts

Do not use oil or wax on these parts.

Use a gentle dishwashing detergent or mild detergent for delicate fabrics as a washing solution. Wipe with a cloth moistened in lukewarm solution. Do not use scouring agents.

Headliner and shelf behind roll bars

Clean with soft bristle brush, or use a dry-shampoo cleaner in case of excessive dirt.

Upholstery

Using aftermarket seat covers or wearing clothing that have the tendency to give off coloring (e.g. when wet etc.) may cause the upholstery to become permanently discolored. By lining the seats with a proper intermediate cover, contact-discoloration will be prevented.

Leather Upholstery
Wipe leather upholstery with a damp cloth and dry thoroughly or clean with Mercedes-Benz approved Leather Care. Exercise particular care when cleaning perforated leather as its underside should not become wet.

Cloth Upholstery
Clean with soft bristle brush, or use a dry-shampoo cleaner in case of excessive dirt.

Seat belts

The webbing must not be treated with chemical cleaning agents. Use only clear, lukewarm water and soap. Do not dry the webbing at temperatures above 176°F (80°C) or in direct sunlight.

Warning!

Do not bleach or dye seat belts as this may severely weaken them. In a crash they may not be able to provide adequate protection.

Technical data

Spare parts service 254
Warranty coverage 254
Identification labels 255
Layout of poly-V-belt drive 257
Technical data 260
Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. – capacities 266
Engine oils 268
Engine oil additives 268
Air conditioner refrigerant 268
Brake fluid 268
Premium unleaded gasoline 269
Fuel requirements 269
Gasoline additives 270
Coolants 270
Consumer information 272

Spare parts service

All authorized Mercedes-Benz Centers maintain a stock of original spare parts required for maintenance and repair work. In addition, strategically located parts distribution centers provide quick and reliable parts service.

More than 300 000 different spare parts, for Mercedes-Benz models, are available.

Mercedes-Benz original spare parts are subjected to stringent quality inspections. Each part has been specifically developed, manufactured or selected for and adapted to Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

Therefore, Mercedes-Benz original spare parts should be installed.

Important!

The use of non-genuine parts and accessories not authorized by Mercedes-Benz could damage the vehicle which damage is not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty, or compromise its durability or safety.

Warranty coverage

Your vehicle is covered under the terms of the “warranties” printed in the Service and Warranty Information booklet and your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will exchange or repair any defective parts originally installed on the vehicle in accordance with the terms of the following warranties:

1. New vehicle limited warranty
2. Emission system warranty
3. Emission performance warranty
4. California, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont emission control systems warranty

Replacement parts and accessories are covered by the Mercedes-Benz Spare Parts and Accessories warranties, copies of which are available at any Mercedes-Benz Center.

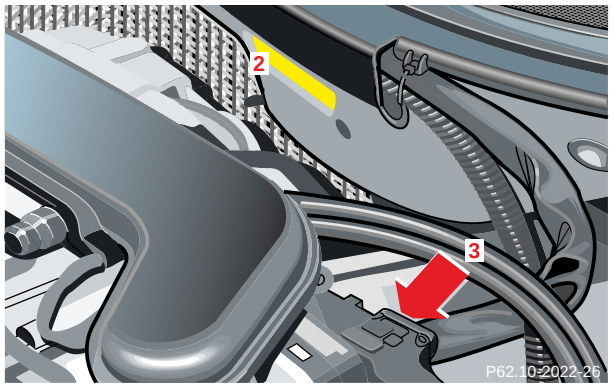
Loss of Service and Warranty Information Booklet

Should you lose your Service and Warranty Information booklet, have your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center arrange for a replacement. It will be mailed to you.

Identification labels

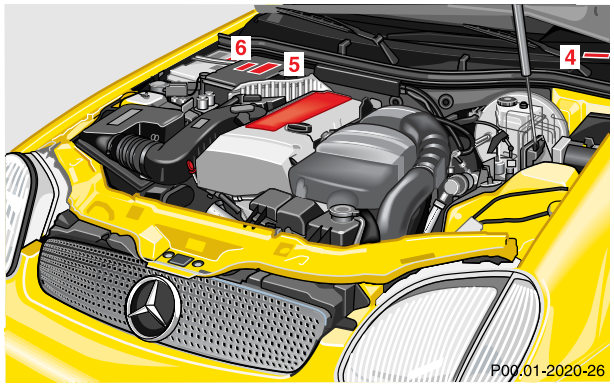


1 Certification Label and Paintwork No.



2 Vehicle Identification No. (VIN)

3 Engine No.



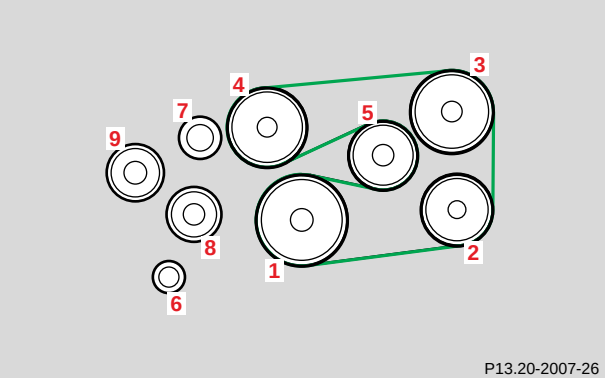
4 VIN, visible (lower edge of windshield)

5 Emission control label

6 Information Label California version
Vacuum line routing for emission control system

When ordering spare parts, please specify vehicle identification and engine number.

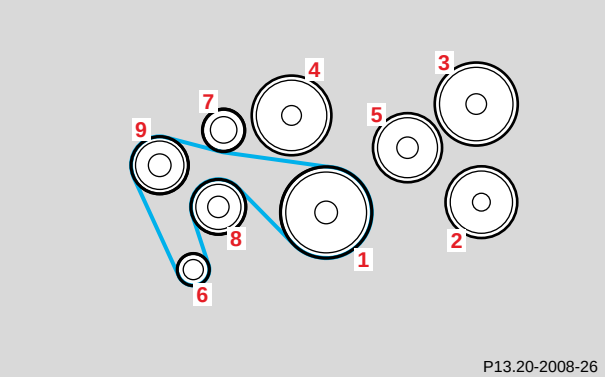
Layout of poly-V-belt drive



SLK 230 Kompressor
routing, belt I

The engine is equipped with two poly-V-belts.

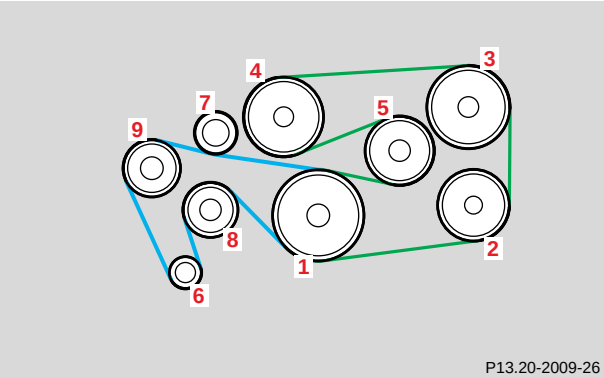
1 Crankshaft
2 Air conditioner compressor
3 Power steering pump
4 Coolant pump



SLK 230 Kompressor
routing, belt II

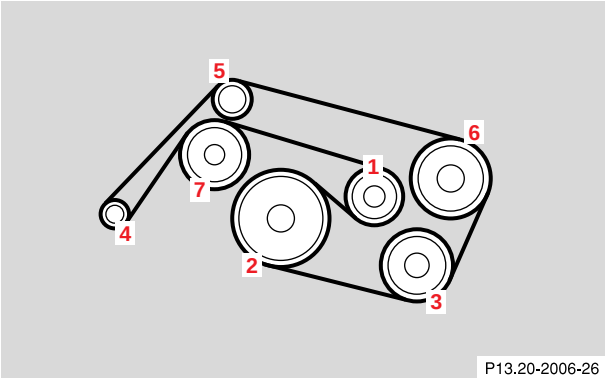
For dimensions of the poly-V-belts, see page 260.

5 Idler pulley
6 Generator (alternator)
7 Idler pulley
8 Idler pulley
9 Supercharger



SLK 230 Kompressor
routing combined, belts I and II

1 Crankshaft
2 Air conditioner compressor
3 Power steering pump
4 Coolant pump
5 Idler pulley
6 Generator (alternator)
7 Idler pulley
8 Idler pulley
9 Supercharger



SLK 320, SLK 32 AMG
belt routing

1 Automatic belt tensioner
2 Crankshaft
3 Air conditioner compressor
4 Generator (alternator)
5 Idler pulley
6 Power steering pump
7 Coolant pump

For dimensions of the poly-V-belt, see page 260.

Technical data

Model	**SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR** (170.449)[1]	**SLK 320** (170.465)[1]	**SLK 32 AMG** (170.466)[1]
Engine	111	112	112
Mode of operation	4-stroke engine, gasoline injection	4-stroke engine, gasoline injection	4-stroke engine, gasoline injection
No. of cylinders	4	6	6
Bore	3.58 in (90.90 mm)	3.54 in (89.90 mm)	3.54 in (89.90 mm)
Stroke	3.48 in (88.40 mm)	3.30 in (84.00 mm)	3.30 in (84.00 mm)
Total piston displacement	140.1 cu.in. (2295 cm^3)	195.2 cu.in. (3199 cm^3)	195.2 cu.in. (3199 cm^3)
Compression ratio	8.8:1	10:1	9.0:1
Output acc. to SAE J 1349	192 hp/5500 rpm (142 kW/5300 rpm)	215 hp/5700 rpm (160 kW/5700 rpm)	349 hp/6100 rpm 260 kW/6100 rpm
Maximum torque acc. to SAE J 1349	200 ft.lb/2500 rpm (270 Nm/2500 rpm)	229 ft.lb/3000 rpm (310 Nm/3000 rpm)	333 ft.lb/4400 rpm (450 Nm/4400 rpm)
Maximum engine speed	5800 rpm	6000 rpm	6200 rpm
Firing order	1-3-4-2	1-4-3-6-2-5	1-4-3-6-2-5
Poly-V-belt	1875 mm (routing I) 1355 mm (routing II)	2390 mm	2390 mm

1 The quoted data apply only to the standard vehicle. See an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center for the corresponding data of all special bodies and special equipment.

Rims – Tires

Model	SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR Except Sport Package	SLK 320 Except Sport Package
Rims and summer tires		
Rims front axle		
light alloy rims	7 J x 16 H 2	7 J x 16 H 2
Wheel offset	1.46 in (37 mm)	1.46 in (37 mm)
Rims rear axle		
light alloy rims	8 J x 16 H 2	8 J x 16 H 2
Wheel offset	1.18 in (30 mm)	1.18 in (30 mm)
Radial-ply tires		
front axle	205/55 R 16 91 V	205/55 R 16 91 W
rear axle	225/50 R 16 92 V[2]	225/50 R 16 92 W[2]

2 Must not be used with snow chains.

Model	SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR/ SLK 320 Sport Package	SLK 32 AMG
Rims and summer tires		
Rims front axle		
light alloy rims	$7^1/_2$ J x 17 H 2	$7^1/_2$ J x 17 H 2
Wheel offset	1.46 in (37 mm)	1.46 in (37 mm)
Rims rear axle		
light alloy rims	$8^1/_2$ J x 17 H 2	$8^1/_2$ J x 17 H 2
Wheel offset	1.34 in (34 mm)	1.34 in (34 mm)
Radial-ply tires		
front axle	225/45 ZR 17[3]	225/45 R 17 91 Y[5]
rear axle	245/40 ZR 17[2, 4]	245/40 R 17 91 Y[2, 6]

2 Must not be used with snow chains.

3 Also permissible: 225/45 R 17 91 Y

4 Also permissible: 245/40 R 17 91 Y[2]

5 Also permissible: 225/45 ZR 17 91 Y

6 Also permissible: 245/40 ZR 17 91 Y[2]

Model	SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR	SLK 320	SLK 32 AMG
Rims and winter tires			
Rims (light alloy) Wheel offset	7 J x 16 H 2 1.46 in (37 mm)	7 J x 16 H 2 1.46 in (37 mm)	7 J x 16 H 2 1.46 in (37 mm)
Radial-ply tires	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S
Spare wheel			
Rim (light alloy) Wheel offset	$4^1/_2$ B x 15 H 2 0.47 in (12 mm)	$4^1/_2$ B x 16 H 2 0.47 in (12 mm)	$4^1/_2$ B x 16 H 2 0.47 in (12 mm)
Collapsible tire	165-15 89 P [2]	165/70-16 92 P [2]	165/70-16 92 P [2]

2 Must not be used with snow chains.

Electrical system

	SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR	SLK 320	SLK 32 AMG
Generator (alternator)	14 V/90 A	14 V/115 A	14 V/120 A
Starter motor	12V/1.1 kW	12V/1.7 kW	12V/1.7 kW
Battery	12V/74 Ah	12V/74 Ah	12V/74 Ah
Spark plugs	Bosch F 7 KTCR	Bosch F 8 DPER Beru 14 FGH 8 DPUR X 2 NGK PFR 5-11	NGK IFR 6D1O
Electrode gap	0.039 in (1.0 mm)	0.039 in (1.0 mm)	0.039 in (1.0 mm)
Tightening torque	15 – 22 ft.lb (20 – 30 Nm)	15 – 22 ft.lb (20 – 30 Nm)	15 – 22 ft.lb (20 – 30 Nm)

Weights (see certification tag)

Trunk load max. 220 lb (100 kg)

Main Dimensions

Model	**SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR/ SLK 320**	**SLK 32 AMG**
Overall vehicle length	157.9 in (4010 mm)	157.9 in (4010 mm)
Overall vehicle width	67.5 in (1715 mm)	67.5 in (1715 mm)
Overall height	50.4 in (1279 mm)	50.4 in (1279 mm)
Wheel base	94.5 in (2400 mm)	94.5 in (2400 mm)
Track, front	58.6 in (1488 mm)	58.6 in (1488 mm)
Track, rear	58.5 in (1485 mm)	58.5 in (1477 mm)

Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. – capacities

Vehicle components and their respective lubricants must match. Therefore use only brands tested and recommended by us. Please refer to the Factory Approved Service Products pamphlet, or inquire at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

	Model	Capacity	Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc.
Engine with oil filter	SLK 230 SLK 320 SLK 32 AMG	6.1 US qt (5.5 l) 8.5 US qt (8.0 l)	Recommended engine oils
Automatic transmission		8.5 US qt (8.0 l)	Automatic transmission fluid
Manual transmission	SLK 230 SLK 320	1.6 US qt (1.5 l) 1.9 US qt (1.8 l)	Transmission oil
Rear axle		1.4 US qt (1.3 l)	Hypoid gear oil SAE 90, 85 W 90
Power steering		approx. 1.1 US qt (1.0 l)	MB Power steering fluid
Front wheel hubs		approx. 1.5 oz (43 g) each	High temperature roller bearing grease
Brake system		approx. 0.5 US qt (0.5 l)	MB Brake fluid (DOT 4)
Cooling system	SLK 230 SLK 320 SLK 32 AMG	approx. 9.8 US qt (9.3 l) approx. 11.8 US qt (11.2 l) approx. 15.3 US qt (14.5 l)	MB Anticorrosion/antifreeze

	Model	Capacity	Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc.
Windshield/Headlamp washer system		approx. 7.4 US qt (7.0 l)	MB Windshield washer concentrate “S” [1]
Fuel tank including a reserve of		approx. 15.8 US gal (60.0 l) approx. 2.1 US gal (8.0 l)	Premium unleaded gasoline: Posted Octane 91 (Avg. of 96 RON/86 MON)
Air conditioner system			R-134a refrigerant and special PAC lubricant *(Never R-12)*

1 Use MB Windshield Washer Concentrate “S” and water for temperatures above freezing or MB Windshield Washer Concentrate “S” and commercially available premixed windshield washer solvent/antifreeze for temperatures below freezing. Follow suggested mixing ratios, see page 199.

Engine oils

Engine oils are specifically tested for their suitability in our engines. Therefore, use only engine oils recommended by Mercedes-Benz. Information on recommended brands is available in the Factory Approved Service Products pamphlet, or at your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Please follow Service Booklet recommendations for scheduled oil changes. Failure to do so could result in engine damage not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Engine oil additives

Do not blend oil additives with engine oil. They may be harmful to the engine operation.

Damage or malfunctions resulting from blending oil additives are not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Air conditioner refrigerant

R-134a (HFC) refrigerant and special PAG lubricating oil is used in the air conditioner system.

Never use R-12 (CFC) or mineral-based lubricating oil, otherwise damage to the system will occur.

Brake fluid

During vehicle operation, the boiling point of the brake fluid is continuously reduced through the absorption of moisture from the atmosphere. Under extremely hard operating conditions, this moisture content can lead to the formation of bubbles in the system thus reducing the system‘s efficiency.

The brake fluid must therefore be replaced every two years, preferably in the spring.

It is recommended to use only brake fluid approved by Mercedes-Benz. Your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center will provide you with additional information.

Premium unleaded gasoline

Caution!

To maintain the engine's durability and performance, premium unleaded gasoline must be used. If premium unleaded is not available and low octane fuel is used, follow these precautions:

- have the fuel tank filled only partially with unleaded regular and fill up with premium unleaded as soon as possible,
- avoid full throttle driving and abrupt acceleration,
- do not exceed $^{2}/_{3}$ of maximum accelerator pedal position, if the vehicle is fully loaded or operating in mountainous terrain.

Fuel requirements

Use only Premium unleaded meeting ASTM standard D 439:

The octane number (posted at the pump) must be 91 min. It is an average of both the Research (R) octane number and the Motor (M) octane number: [(R+M)/2]. This is also known as ANTI-KNOCK INDEX.

Unleaded gasoline containing oxygenates such as Ethanol, IPA, IBA and TBA can be used provided the ratio of any one of these oxygenates to gasoline does not exceed 10%, MTBE not to exceed 15%.

The ratio of Methanol to gasoline must not exceed 3% plus additional cosolvents.

Using mixtures of Ethanol and Methanol is not allowed. Gasohol, which contains 10% Ethanol and 90% unleaded gasoline, can be used.

These blends must also meet all other fuel requirements such as resistance to spark knock, boiling range, vapor pressure etc..

Gasoline additives

A major concern among engine manufacturers is carbon build up caused by gasoline. Mercedes-Benz recommends the use of only quality gasoline containing additives that prevent the build up of carbon deposits.

After an extended period of using fuels without such additives, carbon deposits can build up especially on the intake valves and in the combustion area, leading to engine performance problems such as:

- warm-up hesitation,
- unstable idle,
- knocking/pinging,
- misfire,
- power loss.

Do not blend other specific fuel additives with fuel. They only result in unnecessary cost, and may be harmful to the engine operation.

Damage or malfunctions resulting from poor fuel quality or from blending specific fuel additives are not covered by the Mercedes-Benz Limited Warranty.

Coolants

The engine coolant is a mixture of water and anticorrosion/antifreeze, which provides:

- corrosion protection,
- freeze protection,
- boiling protection (by increasing the boiling point).

The cooling system was filled at the factory with a coolant providing freeze protection to approximately -22°F (-30°C) and corrosion protection.

If the antifreeze mixture is effective to -22°F (-30°C), the boiling point of the coolant in the pressurized cooling system is reached at approximately 266°F (130°C).

The coolant solution must be used year round to provide the necessary corrosion protection and increase in the boil-over protection. You should have it replaced every 3 years.

To provide the important corrosion protection, the solution must be at least 45% anticorrosion/antifreeze (equals a freeze protection to approx. -22 °F [-30 °C]). If you use a solution that is more than 55% anticorrosion/antifreeze (freeze protection to approx. -49 °F [-45°C]),

the engine temperature will increase due to the lower heat transfer capability of the solution. Therefore, do not use more than this amount of anticorrosion/antifreeze.

If the coolant level is low, water and MB anticorrosion/antifreeze should be used to bring it up to the proper level (have cooling system checked for signs of leakage).

The water in the cooling system must meet minimum requirements, which are usually satisfied by normal drinking water. If your are not sure about the water quality, consult your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

Anticorrosion/antifreeze

Your vehicle contains a number of aluminum parts. The use of aluminum components in motor vehicle engines necessitates that anticorrosion/antifreeze coolant used in such engines be specifically formulated to protect the aluminum parts. (Failure to use such anticorrosion/antifreeze coolant will result in a significantly shortened service life.)

Therefore the following product is strongly recommended for use in your vehicle: Mercedes-Benz Anticorrosion/Antifreeze Agent.

Before the start of the winter season (or once a year in the hot southern regions), you should have the anticorrosion/antifreeze concentration checked. The coolant is also regularly checked each time you bring your vehicle to your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center for service.

Anticorrosion/antifreeze quantity

Model	Approx. freeze protection	
	– 35°F (– 37°C)	– 49°F (– 45°C)
SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR	4.9 US qt (4.7 l)	5.4 US qt (5.1 l)
SLK 320	5.9 US qt (5.6 l)	6.5 US qt (6.1 l)
SLK 32 AMG	7.7 US qt (7.3 l)	8.5 US qt (8.0 l)

Consumer information

This has been prepared as required of all manufactures of passenger cars under Title 49, Code of U.S. Federal Regulations, Part 575 pursuant to the “National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966”.

Uniform tire quality grading

Quality grades can be found where applicable on the tire sidewall between tread shoulder and maximum section width. For example:

Tread wear 200 Traction AA Temperature A

All passenger vehicle tires must conform to federal safety requirements in addition to these grades.

Treadwear

The treadwear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course. For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one-half ($1\ ^{1}/_{2}$) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices and differences in road characteristics and climate.

Traction

The traction grades, from highest to lowest are “AA”, “A”, “B”, and “C”. Those grades represent the tire’s ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked “C” may have poor traction performance.

Warning!

The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on straightahead braking traction tests, and does not include acceleration, cornering, hydroplaning, or peak traction characteristics.

Temperature

The temperature grades are “A” (the highest), “B”, and “C”, representing the tire‘s resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel. Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade “C” corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger vehicle tires must meet under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.

Warning!

The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause excessive heat build up and possible tire failure.

Index

A

ABS (Antilock brake system) 171
Malfunction indicator lamp 186
Adjusting telescoping steering column 65
Air conditioner refrigerant 268
Air pump (except SLK 32 AMG) 200
Air pump (SLK 32 AMG only) 202
Airbag deactivation system 51
AIRBAG OFF indicator lamp 190
Airbags 54
Alarm system 35, 37
Antenna 244
Anticorrosion / antifreeze 164, 198, 266, 270
Antilock brake system (ABS) 171
Malfunction indicator lamp 186
Antitheft alarm system 35
Aquaplaning 161
Ashtrays 116
Audio system 93
Anti-theft system 95
Button and soft key operation 96
Cassette mode 101
CD changer 105
CD mode 104
Operating and display elements 94
Operating safety 93
Operation – audio and telephone 93
Radio mode 99
Telephone operation 108
Automatic central locking 31
Automatic transmission 147
Emergency Operation 155
Fluid level 196
Program mode selector switch 154
Selector lever positions 150
Transmission selector lever, manually unlocking 229

B

BabySmart™ airbag deactivation system 51
Self-test 51
BAS (Brake assist system) 169
Malfunction indicator lamp 185
Battery 220
Charge indicator lamp 188
Recycling 221

Block heater 165
Brake assist system (BAS) 169
Malfunction indicator lamp 185
Brake fluid 268
Brake pad wear indicator lamp 184
Brake warning lamp 183
Brake fluid low 183
Brakes 158, 169, 171, 173
Bulbs
See Replacing bulbs 230

C

Capacities
Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. 266
Catalytic converter 140
CD changer installed 105
Cellular telephone 118
Center console 18
Central locking switch 30
Central locking system 24
Automatic central locking 31
Choosing global or selective mode 25
Emergency release for trunk lid 35
General notes 23
Locking and unlocking 25
Mechanical keys 27
Remote control 22, 24, 236
Vehicle keys 22
Changing wheels 207
Inflating the collapsible spare tire 212
Storing spare wheel in wheel well 213
Charge indicator lamp 188
Check engine malfunction indicator lamp 182
Check regularly and before a long trip 179
Checking engine oil level
Via engine oil level indicator 79
Via oil dipstick 197
Child restraint 44, 51, 63
Child seat
See Infant and child restraint systems 63
Cleaning and care of the vehicle 246
Climate control 86
Air Recirculation 91
Basic setting 88
Defogging windows 89
Defrosting 89
Dust Filter 92
Rear window defroster 90
Residual Engine Heat Utilization (REST) 91
Special settings 89

Clock, setting 76
Coin Holder 116
Combination switch 83
Consumer information 272
Control and operation of radio transmitters 130
Coolant level
 Adding coolant 198
 Checking 198
Coolant temperature gauge 75
Coolants 270
 Anticorrosion/antifreeze quantity 271
Cruise control 166
Cup holder 114

D

Daytime running lamps 82
Deep water
 Driving instructions 165
Display illumination 74
Doors 28
Drinking and driving 157
Drive sensibly - Save Fuel 157
Driving instructions 157
Driving off 159

E

Electronic stability program (ESP) 173
 Control switch 175
 Malfunction indicator lamp 185
 Synchronizing 174
 Warning lamp 185
Emergency call
 See Tele Aid 132
Emergency release for trunk lid 35
Emergency tensioning retractor (ETR) 53
 SRS indicator lamp 184
Emergency unlocking in case of accident 32
Emission control 141
Emission control label 256
Engine compartment 194
Engine oil additives 268
Engine oil consumption 80
Engine oil level
 Checking 79, 197
 Warning 188
Engine oil level indicator 79
Engine oils 268
ESP (Electronic stability program) 173
 Control switch 175
 Malfunction indicator lamp 185

Synchronizing 174
Warning lamp 185
ETR (Emergency tensioning retractor) 53
SRS indicator lamp 184
Express opening and closing (power windows) 111
Exterior lamp failure indicator 189
Exterior lamp switch 81
Exterior lamps 230
Additional turn signals on the exterior mirror 235
Headlamp assembly 231
High mounted stop lamp 235
Low and high beam 232
Parking lamps 233, 234
Replacing bulbs 230
Side marker lamp, front 235
Standing lamps 233, 234
Taillamp assemblies 234
Turn signal lamps 233, 234
Exterior mirror adjustment 67

F

First aid kit 192
Flat tire
See Changing wheels 207
Flexible service system (FSS) 77
FSS indicator lamp 73, 189
Fuel
Gasoline additives 270
Premium unleaded gasoline 177, 267, 269
Fuel cap placement warning 185
Fuel filler flap
Manual release 244
Fuel requirements 269
Fuel reserve warning 185
Fuels, coolants, lubricants etc. - capacities 266
Fuse box 192
Fuses, electrical 192

G

Garage door opener 119
Gasoline
Additives 270
Fuel requirements 269
Premium unleaded 269
General notes
on the central locking system 23
Global locking
See Central locking system 24
Glove box 114

H

Hardtop, retractable 122
Lowering 123
Raising 125
Raising manually 238
Hazard warning flasher switch 85
Head restraints
Removal 40
Headlamp cleaning system 82
Headlights 81
Heated seats 42
High beams
See Combination switch 83
Hood 194

I

Identification labels 255
Indicator lamps
in the instrument cluster 72, 182
Infant and child restraint systems 63
Inflating the collapsible spare tire 212
Information call
See Tele Aid 132
Instrument cluster 70
Activating 74
Indicator lamps 72
Malfunction and indicator lamps 182
Instrument lamps 74
Instruments and controls 16
Interior
General notes 113
Interior lighting 112

J

Jack (SLK 32 AMG only) 202
Jump starting 222

K

Keys, changing batteries 236
Keys, vehicle 22

L

Lamps, exterior
- Fog lamps 81, 234
- Headlamps 81, 189, 231, 249
- Parking lamps 81, 231, 233
- Replacing bulbs 230
- Side marker lamp, front 81, 235
- Standing lamps 81, 231, 233
- Taillamps 81, 189, 234, 249

Layout of poly-V-belt drive 257
Lighter 117
Limp Home Mode
- (Automatic transmission) 155

Locking and unlocking 25
Low beams
- See Combination switch 83

Low engine coolant level warning 187
Luggage cover 128

M

Maintenance 131
Malfunction and indicator lamps
- in the instrument cluster 182

Manual locking/unlocking the doors 27
Manual transmission 145
Mechanical keys 27
Mirror, exterior, adjusting 67
Mirror, exterior, rear view 67
Mirror, inside, rear view 66

N

Night security illumination 112

O

On-board diagnostic system 182
Operator's manual 6
Outside temperature indicator 75
Overhead control panel 19

P

Panic button 26
Parcel net in passenger footwell 118
Parking 159
Parking brake 156, 158, 159, 174, 183
Power assistance 158
Power seats 38
Power windows 111
 Express opening 111
 Operate with hard top switch 122
Problems with your vehicle 12
Product information 5

R

Radio
 See Radio mode 99
Radio and telephone 130
Radio transmitters 130
Rear view mirrors 66
 Exterior 67
 Inside 66
Rear window defroster 90
Remote control 22
 Battery replacement 236
 Synchronizing 237
Replacing bulbs 230
Replacing wiper blade insert 243
Reporting safety defects 13
Residual Engine Heat Utilization (REST) 91
Retractable hardtop 122
Roadside assistance 8
Roadside assistance call
 See Tele Aid 132

S

Safety guidelines for the seat belt, emergency tensioning retractor and airbag 61
Seat belts 44
Fastening 46
Seat belt nonusage warning system 45
Unfastening 48
Warning lamp 184
Seat belts and integrated restraint system 44
Seats 38
Power seats 38
Seat heater 42
Selective locking
See Central locking system 24
Service indicator
See Flexible service system (FSS) 77
Setting the audio volume 97
Shelf behind roll bars 118
Side marker lamp 235
Snow chains 163
SOS-call
See Tele Aid 132
Spare parts service 254
Spare wheel 205
Spare wheel (except SLK 32 AMG) 200
Special settings (Climate control) 89
SRS (Supplemental restraint system) 52
Indicator lamp 184
SRS malfunction 55
Start lock-out 23
Malfunction lamp 189
Starting and turning off the engine 144
Steering column, telescopic
Adjusting 65
Warning lamp 186
Steering lock 142
Storage box
Trunk floor 202
Storage compartments 115
Armrest 115
Center console 115
Glove box 114
Trunk floor 200
Stowing items in the vehicle 192
Sun visors 113
Supplemental restraint system (SRS) 52
Indicator lamp 184
SRS malfunction 55
Synchronizing remote control 237

T

Tachometer 76
Technical data 260
 Electrical system 264
 Main Dimensions 265
 Rims – Tires 261
 Weights 265
Tele Aid 132
 Emergency calls 133
 Information 136
 Initiating an emergency call manually 134
 Roadside Assistance 135
Telephones and two-way radio 130
Telescoping steering column
 Adjusting 65
 Warning lamp 186
The first 1 000 miles (1 500 km) 131
TIREFIT 214
 Reifen abdichten 215
TIREFIT (SLK 32 AMG only) 202
Tires
 Consumer information 272
 Driving instructions 160
 Rims and tires 261
 Rotating wheels 204
 Tire inflation pressure 219
 Tire replacement 203
 Tire speed rating 162
 Tire traction 162
 Winter driving instructions 163
Tool kit
 See Air pump, spare wheel, vehicle tools, storage compartment 200
 See Storage box, TIREFIT-Kit, air pump, vehicle tools 202
Tow-away alarm 37
Towing the vehicle 224
Transmission selector lever, manually unlocking 229
Traveling abroad 165
Trip Odometer 76
Trunk 33
 Separately locked 33
Trunk lid
 Emergency release 35
 Release switch 33
Turn signal failure 83
Turn signals 83

V

Vanity Mirror 113
Vehicle jack (except SLK 32 AMG) 201
Vehicle tools (except SLK 32 AMG) 200
Vehicle tools (SLK 32 AMG only) 202

W

Warning lamps
 See Indicator lamps in the instrument cluster 72
Warranty Coverage 254
Washing the vehicle 248
What you should know at the gas station 177
Wheels 203
 Changing 207
 Light alloy wheels 250
 Rims and tires 261
 Rotating 204
 Spare wheel 205
Where to find it 11
Wind screen 127
Windows
 See Power windows 111
Windshield and headlamp washer system 199
 Low fluid level warning lamp 187
Winter driving 164
Winter driving instructions 163
Wiper blade
 Replacing insert 243
Wiper operation
 See Combination switch 83

Service and Literature

Your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center has trained technicians and original Mercedes-Benz parts to service your vehicle properly. For expert advice and quality service, see your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

If your are interested in obtaining service literature for your vehicle, please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz Center. We consider this the best way for you to obtain accurate information for your vehicle.

For further information you can find us on the Mercedes-Benz web-site *www.mbusa.com*.

Warning!

To help avoid personal injury, be extremely careful when performing any service work or repairs. Improper or incomplete service or the use of incorrect or inappropriate parts or materials may damage the vehicle or its equipment, which may in turn result in personal injury.

If you have any question about carrying out some service, turn to the advice of an authorized Mercedes-Benz Center.

We reserve the right to modify the technical details of the vehicle as given in the data and illustrations of this Operator's Manual. Reprinting, translation and copying, even of excerpts, is not permitted without our prior authorization in writing.

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